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Schmale reflects on year, hopes for 'positive' 2021

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

While he doesn't want to see another federal election any time soon, sitting Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Jamie Schmale has once again ensured he will be the Conservative candidate on the ballot the next time one rolls around.

Schmale was formally acclaimed as the Conservative nominee on Dec. 12, 2020. Following the announcement, he caught up with the *Echo* to discuss the possibility of an early election being called, reflect on a year decimated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and consider some of the issues that are likely to take centre stage in 2021.

Although most things pre-COVID-19 seem like a lifetime ago now, the 2019 federal election wrapped up only 14 months ago. The next one is slated to take place on, or before, Oct. 16, 2023. With Prime Minister Justin Trudeau having to settle for a minority government, Schmale believes an election "could come at any time."

"I don't think Canadians really want an election right now. Certainly, nobody I've spoken to is in a rush to get back to the polls, so I don't think we're in a hurry for it. But with that said, we are in the position of having a minority parliament, and

see SCHMALE page 4



Late festive gift

Bernstein's store cashier Sue Parish was happy to learn about how the store won a \$100 prize through this year's Christmas Decorating Contest from BIA's Angelica Ingram. Open to downtown businesses, starting early in December Bernstein's stood out for how it was "cute and comical," which included decorated window displays with vintage dolls, one of which had a "social distancing mask on its face. Other downtown locations that also caught the attention of BIA judges was Master's Book Store and Jan's Knits. /DARREN LUM Staff

Sledders, abide by the rules so everyone can enjoy

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association is preparing for the 2021 season, hoping sledders take care, heed trail status reports, and for more snow accumulation to open more of its 370 total kilometres of trails.

Right now, the HCSA is dealing with downed trees, laden with snow hindering efforts to open trails in this area.

"We are deeply challenged with blown down trees across the trails. That's probably OK. Our two biggest challenges is getting the weatherman on our side. Two, clearing our trails," HCSA vice-president John Enright.

Late last week, Enright estimates 250 trees have been cleared from when a

windstorm came through the area close to four weeks ago, a job made more difficult with the snow pulling trees and branches over trails. Despite this challenge, it's not set back preparations significantly. He added there haven't been any "big storms" to help with establishing a greater base for trails.

There are currently a few trails open in the Highlands designated limited
see SNOWMOBILERS page 2

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Wilberforce gives students a hand up for future careers

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Even with masks on, the two Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Grade 12 students couldn't hide the light in their eyes, expressing their happiness for being chosen as the first recipients of the Wilberforce FUNraising Group Bursary Award.

Students Chelsea Flynn of Wilberforce and Sydney Little of Harcourt were appreciative and grateful for the bursaries, each receiving \$500 to go towards their chosen post-secondary path.

The Wilberforce Elementary School graduates said this money will help to cover the cost of equipment related to their areas of study.

Flynn, who has her sights set on becoming a plumber, said she was brought to tears with her mother when she received word she had been chosen as a recipient.

"We were sitting in Haliburton and I cried. My mom and I were sitting in the parking lot, crying," she said.

Her entire family, she said, is employed in the trades.

The bursary will alleviate some of the stress related to buying much of the tools she requires for her upcoming apprenticeship this year, which is made possible through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Sydney echoed the importance of the bursary for her career aspirations. She plans to attend post-secondary school for baking later this calendar year to pursue her passion, hoping to use her culinary skills to open her own country cafe.

"I just got off work so it was later in the day. I was very happy because I knew that would cover a couple things I knew I needed," she said.

She adds the money will be used to purchase her uniform and enables her to upgrade or add to her collection of baking



Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students Sydney Little, left, lower, and Chelsea Flynn accepted the Wilberforce FUNraising Group Bursary Award worth \$500 from the FUNraising Group's Joan Barton, left, above, and Kathy Rogers on Dec. 23 at the Herlhey Park bench at the Agnews General Store in Wilberforce. /DARREN LUM Staff

implements. The senior student said her passion for baking started with her grandmother, who loved to bake pies.

The bursary coordinator and member of the Wilberforce FUNraising Group, Kathy Rogers said the bursary award is all about the community.

"It was an anonymous donation that came to our group because of all the stuff that we do for the community and then we turned the funds around to put back into the community to our youth and folks in the community because we're all about community spirit," Rogers said.

FUNraising group member Joan Barton said this donation was followed up by another surprise donation made by several people, who came forward after reading the *Echo* article promoting the bursary and alerting the public about the deadline in December.

"We didn't go out and ask anyone for

anything to do with the bursary," she said.

There's a certain message that is being delivered from the community, Barton said.

"I think it says the whole community thinks that the well-being of the young people in the community is tremendously important. That it's a really high priority," she said.

She believes this desire to help young people comes from the large population of seniors and how they want to contribute to a stronger future.

"I think that the community here wants the opportunities our young people have to be just as exciting and just as varied and just as open as the opportunities are for a kid that lives anywhere in Canada. We want our kids to have a level playing field," she said.

There is always a hope that community work is recognized and these donations

for the bursary were an affirmation of the efforts.

"When you're trying to be a community group doing work for the good of the community it's always nice to get feedback that, yes, you're going in the right direction. And that's about the most concrete feedback you can get," she said. "We feel like we're doing something that the community wants done."

Rogers said there has been another donation made to the group, which will be used for a bursary for next year. This is in addition to the FUNraising Group's ongoing fundraising efforts from holding events such as the maple syrup festival, penny raffle and the sale of community calendars. The group also welcomes donations from the public.

This bursary was open to students from Wilberforce and the surrounding area.

Students were asked to complete an application form that was reviewed by the Wilberforce FUNraising Group. Application forms included intended programs of study, the name of the college, university or apprenticeship program, career goals, and academic information such as credits completed and final marks, participation in extra-curricular activities, and community service activities. It also asks for a written submission or video presentation or graphic presentation about the reason why the applicant is applying for the bursary and what career goals they have to be attached to the application. Preference was given to students entering their first year of post-secondary education.

Barton said this positive outcome is proof of two things: community support and good candidates.

"Our hope at this point is that this is the beginning of something that's going to go on and perhaps get bigger. We've done this and it worked out really well and the intention is to run with it," she said.

Snowmobilers encouraged to heed trail status designations

from page 1

availability such as the B103, otherwise known as the Haliburton County Rail Trail. This isn't far off the usual norms for a year though.

Most years, Enright said, the HCSA doesn't have much trail availability before the first week of January.

"We're not behind the eight ball. We're working as hard as we can. Our teams, plural, are out packing and clearing trees, pulling snows in the low spots, hoping it will freeze and when people ride through

closed trails this sets us back," he said.

All of the HCSA personnel, including its five machine groomers, are working to open more trails.

One of which, the groomer for B103 (also Haliburton County Rail Trail) is being designated to have every hour it grooms to translate to \$1 donated to the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Foundation.

This foundation helps provide financial assistance to those recently diagnosed with breast cancer across Canada.

From a Facebook post, Enright said, "it's our way of giving back to a great

organization who help patients cope with this disease. We want to make a difference."

So far, without a significant storm this season, there is not enough snow accumulation to open more trails.

His message to sledders running closed trails is they risk not only harm to themselves travelling across open water or unfrozen swamps, but also how they can set back preparations.

COVID-19, too, has had an affect on snowmobiling.

Although the association has not been slowed down by the virus, they have been forced to take steps to reduce the transmission of the virus by having their workers wear masks, signing in and out, washing hands and social distancing while inside their storage garage

Another area COVID-19 is showing itself is in recommendations for sledders.

Enright adds the situation remains fluid and referenced how a little more than week ago riders weren't allowed to ride to Muskoka, as trails to that area were categorized red and the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit region was yellow related to the COVID-19 designations for restrictions. The province-wide lockdown, initiated on Dec. 26, changed things once again.

Enright referenced the recommendations by the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs to remind sledders to stay within their health unit region and embark on essential travel only.

"The best practice is ride within the health unit [region]," he said. "We understand that probably 70 per cent of our rid-

ership is from outside the area, so ride socially appropriate and understand there will be very limited services on Ontario trails this winter."

The OFSC announced trails to Quebec, Manitoba and the United States are closed.

Enright acknowledges how the activity of snowmobiling itself isn't a cause for concern related to viral transmission.

"It's what happens after snowmobiling. People congregate in groups, so practice social distancing and do all things you read in the *Echo* every week," he said.

Enright reminds sledders to learn and heed the trail status designations.

"It's so important that people check for trail availability before setting out and the best way to do that is to go online and look and don't ride on unavailable, closed trails, because they're not safe," he said.

Red means unavailable and that access is prohibited, meaning those entering the property are trespassing. Yellow means limited availability and users understand trails are limited and should be used with "extreme care" and to reduce speed while on them. Green means available, but will vary in terms of quality and terrain. See website (ofsc.evtrails.com/#) for up to date statuses.

Knowledge is power and helps everyone related to the activity.

"It's about education. We can't be running to the OPP for everything. They have enough to do," he said. "They are our enforcement and safety partner, but we need people to cooperate. Check for trail availability, ride accordingly, take it easy and enjoy Haliburton."

Six cases of COVID-19 confirmed over holidays

No new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Haliburton County on Jan. 4, though six local cases have been reported since Dec. 24, with four of those cases remaining unresolved. In total, Haliburton County has seen 33 confirmed cases of COVID-19 to date. /Screenshot from the HKPRDHU website

New Cases Reported Today		
0	7	11
Haliburton	KawarthaLakes	Northumberland

Total Confirmed Cases to Date *			
33	272	267	572
Haliburton (HAL)	Kawartha Lakes (CKL)	Northumberland (NTH)	HKPRDHU

*Note: Total cases by County and for the Health Unit overall may increase or decrease from previously reported counts as cases may be reassigned to or from the HKPRDHU based on case investigation details and routine data cleaning.

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County *							
County	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths among Confirmed Cases	Deaths among Probable Cases
Haliburton	4	29	2	0	1	0	0
Kawartha Lakes	31	222	58	0	16	19	13
Northumberland	37	228	92	2	7	2	0

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths, HKPRDHU							
All Counties	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths among Confirmed Cases	Deaths among Probable Cases
HKPRDHU	72	479	179 **	2	24	21	13

Report on blue-green algae says 'there is no silver bullet' to fix

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A scientist hired by the Haliburton County Home Builders' Association [HCHBA] to put together a report on the status of algal blooms across the county's lakes says "there is no simple fix" to the problem that plagued some local waterways last year.

Put together by Dr. Melodie Lindsay, a specialist in biological sciences and microbiology, the report explains how toxic algal blooms form and what area residents and water stewards can do to limit their effects and eradicate the problem.

"Toxic algal bloom is a global problem brought on by a multitude of factors. There is no simple fix, and we are fortunate to not have experienced any noteworthy events thus far," Dr. Lindsay wrote. "Prevention is a key strategic goal, both environmentally and economically, but this will only be achieved through proper water quality monitoring and using all the tools and local knowledge available to us to take rational and evidenced action."

The issue impacted several local lakes late in 2020. Little Glamour Lake in Highlands East tested positive for blue-green algae on Oct. 22, while Wenona Lake in Dysart et al, Bob Lake in Minden Hills and Gooderham Lake in Highlands East tested positive on Nov. 9. The outbreaks weren't long, with all blooms reported to have completely dissipated by Nov. 14.

There was some concern locally as a result of the positive tests, with the issue debated at length at Haliburton County council on Nov. 25. Blue-green algae has the potential to be toxic to humans and animals.

Blooms fall into three general categories that vary in severity, according to information provided by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit. In category one, the water is cloudy, but translucent and no health effect is expected. In category two, the water colour changes and the algae may be clustered or in flakes, and may look like "pea puree." In category three, the

bloom is dense and may have a scum on top of the water, or look like a paint spill and can be easily swept by the wind.

When blue-green algae falls into category two or three, people are advised not to swim or use the water for drinking, cooking, rinsing foods or washing dishes. It's also recommended that pets be prevented from entering or drinking the water.

Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria as it is otherwise known, dates back 3.5 billion years, Dr. Lindsay says. There are over 2,000 different types. Most, if not all, photosynthesize, like plants, and produce oxygen. She estimates that blue-green algae are responsible for producing around 30 per cent of all oxygen on earth.

Dr. Lindsay says blue-green algae "have gotten a bad reputation" for their role in lake water quality over the years, but do have some benefits. Uncontaminated spores are a natural source of protein and vitamins, which may help to reduce fatigue. Products containing blue-green algae have been used to treat ailments such as high blood pressure and combat high cholesterol.

The report lists seven known triggers of algal blooms – stagnant water; high water temperatures, usually above 25 degrees Celsius; nutrient availability, in particular the ratio of nitrogen and phosphorus in water; high levels of dissolved carbon dioxide in water; long sunlight hours; sedimentation of other microscopic organisms; and light winds.

So, what can be done to prevent the formation of these blooms?

"Control of algal blooms is both difficult and controversial. It is safe to say there is no silver bullet and no one-size-fits-all approach," Dr. Lindsay states. "A recent study found that one of the most important factors in successfully mitigating algal bloom is relying on local knowledge. Do we have leaky or aging septic systems? Are we nutrient loading our waters through intensive farming? Do we have storm runoff entering our lakes? Is our municipal sewage and stormwater system up to scratch?"

She added, "It's easy to point fingers and shift blame, but it is impossible to make informed decisions without doing our homework."

With that in mind, the next most important tool to understanding how, why and where blooms form is monitoring.

"Water quality monitoring will take us leaps and bounds closer to understanding the risk and true causes of algal bloom in Haliburton County," Dr. Lindsay's report says. "We should be testing water quality regularly, and specifically after storms, high boating traffic weekends, just after the lakes thaw, after leaf fall in autumn... Only then can we make effective changes for the better."

Taking the information from the report, the HCHBA aims to reinforce the importance of proper scientific research when exploring new bylaws and policies that will affect future development across our community.




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HHHS Foundation receives \$92,000 grant from Canadian Medical Association

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation has secured some additional funding to help support front-line workers during this second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Announced back in December, the organization received \$92,000 from the Canadian Medication Association Foundation's COVID-19 Community Hospital Fund. The money will be used to purchase equipment for acute care expansion across Haliburton County and provide area residents with improved access to patient care.

"Making improvements to this space will help ensure access to hospital services over the longer-term during this pandemic, as well as preparing for future pandemics or similar emergencies, and will help to ensure that staff has the necessary tools to provide safe, high quality care, regardless of the setting," said Carolyn Plummer, president and CEO of HHHS.

The CMA Foundation launched the COVID-19 Community Hospital Fund early on during the pandemic as it worked to ensure small hospitals across the country, and its staff, had the necessary space and equipment to tackle the novel coronavirus in their communities. The \$5 million fund supports hospitals across Canada with fewer than 100 beds to meet their evolving needs with activities, equipment and training that enhance staff wellness, improve access to care and help prepare for future pandemics.

Across all of its programs, the organization has committed more than \$30 million nationwide in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We know these are extraordinary times that require extraordinary support," said Allison Seymour, CMA Foundation president. "From managing evolving health care needs to address changes in your community, to ensuring the proper equipment and training for your staff, our hope is that these funds will have a positive impact as we continue to navigate the challenges of the pandemic."

NOTICE TO PATIENTS OF DR. KRISTY GAMMON

Dr. Kristy Gammon and the Haliburton Family Medical Centre are pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Muriel Charles to the team.

Dr. Gammon will be retired from her practice March 1, 2021 and Dr. Charles will be joining Dr. Gammon as a locum physician January 4, 2021 until she officially assumes the care of many of Dr. Gammon's patients March 1. She cannot accommodate all, so some will be assigned to another provider at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre. If you are already a patient of one of our nurse practitioners, and were rostered under Dr. Gammon, you will remain under the care of the nurse practitioner, but will be rostered to another physician on our team.

Letters have been mailed out to Dr. Gammon's patients outlining this practice change. Please feel free to call Kim Robinson at 705-457-1212, extension 368 with any questions.

We look forward to welcoming Dr. Charles!

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Schmale hopes Canadian economy can recover in 2021

from page 1

an election could come at any time" Schmale said. "We want to make sure we're ready for all possibilities."

The focus for right now though, Schmale says, should be securing and bolstering the Canadian economy, and ensuring the COVID-19 vaccines the federal government has secured get out to the people that need it. With that in mind, Schmale believes "the required amount of parties can find enough common ground" to spare voters from another early election.

With a new leader at the helm in Erin O'Toole, who serves as MP in neighbouring Durham, Schmale believes the local riding is in an advantageous position of having a potential prime minister privy to all the issues and intricacies that exist in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

"Erin knows our riding, and I think that can only be a benefit for us. He borders our riding and knows all about the rural aspect and urban aspect of communities like ours. He is a capable leader who ticks a lot of boxes and brings a lot of common sense to the table," Schmale said. "He's come up with the slogan that he wants us to be 'aggressively reasonable' as a Conservative caucus. He wants to make sure we're doing our jobs properly and appropriately, and that we're not simply opposing things for the sake of it. If we're going to oppose something, he wants us to say why we oppose it, and then put forward a plan as to what we would do differently, which I think is responsible for any opposition member."

A prime example for that, Schmale notes, would be the rollout of the federal government's many COVID-19 relief programs in the early stages of the pandemic. While he was impressed by some aspects, notably the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), Schmale was dismayed by the way the emergency rent and wage

subsidies were handled.

When the first iteration of the rent program was released, only around 10 per cent of Canadian businesses qualified, Schmale says. Similarly, when the wage subsidy was announced, it was to cover only 10 per cent of an employee's wage. Many Canadians, including Schmale, lobbied the federal government to make widespread changes to ensure the subsidies were more accessible and wide-reaching.

"The problem was, while this was all going on, parliament wasn't in session. It was difficult advocating for my constituents because there was no avenue [to do so]," Schmale said. "Essentially, the government was making all these announcements, and there was no way to debate or discuss them, so we were forced to use back channels to do all of that, which wasn't as effective as it could have been."

Schmale is also concerned that the Liberals have yet to table a 2020 Budget.

"We've been getting these fiscal updates, which generally put us a few hundred billion in the hole, but we still do not have a budget. This is the longest period in Canadian history that we haven't had a budget – even during the wars, the great wars, we were able to table a budget," Schmale said. "We're over a trillion dollars in debt nationally, with that number growing every day."

Looking locally, Schmale was pleased to see some movement on potential high-speed internet investments across Haliburton County – a particularly pressing matter now that more and more people are working from home.

While he admitted internet service, generally speaking, "isn't very good" in many rural areas right now, he was hopeful that additional funding announced by the Ontario government in November would ensure some problem areas are taken care of sooner rather than later.

"People are frustrated, and I understand that. Having access to a reliable internet service is a necessity in today's age. While I can't give exact timelines, it is refreshing to hear that we're going to see new towers going up and some cable being laid [in our area]," Schmale said. "Hopefully that will provide some relief to what is a major issue across our riding."

While all Ontario residents, and businesses, are currently observing a second provincially-mandated lockdown in the wake of escalating COVID-19 cases, Schmale believes the gradual rollout of the coronavirus vaccine will lead to the eventual full-scale reopening of the economy. Although he acknowledges it may take some time.

"Some experts have said you need upwards of 70 per cent immunity in order to let things go back to the way they were, so it'll take a while to hit that number," Schmale said. "But we need to continue to manage this as best we can and allow for parts of the economy to reopen. Yes, we want people to stay safe, but there also has to be a conversation around how do we live with the virus safely, because the government can't continue to provide bail outs indefinitely. It's just not possible, because somebody, eventually, has to pay all of this back."

He added, "We only have a couple more years of spending, if that, at this level. Then we're back to where we were in the 1990s, where our debt to GDP ratio was upwards of 66 per cent and the government struggled to find anyone willing to purchase our debt. That was when you started to see prices and taxes being increased..."

"We really don't want to get to the point where we start to see our currency start to devalue itself, and the cost of living skyrocket, so the next year or two are going to be pivotal as we try to get back on our feet," Schmale concluded.

Community effort brightens sombre festive season

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Interact Team members helped to orchestrate a positive tone in 2020 during the pandemic with its club's Holiday Shoebox Event.

The idea behind the Shoebox collection, which started Nov. 30 and finished Dec. 14, is to ensure the holiday season is a "little extra special for teens" in the community. The collection fulfills a need for teens, asking for brand

new hygiene items, clothing items, entertainment items, unused gift cards and cash.

From a Twitter post made by the faculty advisor Christine Carr, the club was "blown away" by the outpouring of generosity through this initiative.

"We wildly exceeded our goal of 50 boxes and have 81 ready to go to donate for teens in our area. Thank you everyone who donated and supported our project!"

Carr said her teaching colleague Rebeka Borgdorff is also a faculty advisor with the club, which was central to this effort that teaches an important lesson.

In an email, Carr said, "I think it is important for stu-

dents as it helps them learn how to give back. Students know that there are many families right now struggling, and wanted to find ways they could help. They were able to collect so many as it was the first time they collected in the community as well as the school. They collected donations in Haliburton, Minden, and with the help of Haliburton Rotary and Minden Rotary, and had a school-wide competition."

Interact Team members collected from the public by standing out on the main streets of Haliburton and Minden over a weekend in December. Within the school, boxes were left in classrooms where donations were made by peers and faculty, as motivated by a competition format between teams formed by dividing classes to compete for either principal Chris Boulay or for vice-principal Jennifer Mills. Points were earned for different items. The most awarded points won.

Victorious school team winners were rewarded for their efforts to see different staff members perform "some pretty funny tasks" on Thursday, Dec. 17 and Friday, Dec. 18.

Team Mills won the competition, leading to staff members such as Mrs. Paton to wear an embarrassing outfit, Mrs. Borgdorff received a pie to the face, and Mr. Gervais and Mrs. Address wore each other's clothing – Mr. Gervais wore a wedding dress and Mrs. Address wore a tuxedo.

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Rails End Gallery needs more funding as COVID-19 impacts take hold

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

2020 was a tough year for Haliburton's Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre.

Located on York Street, inside the community's landmark rail station, the gallery promotes Canadian art, crafts and music created by artists across Haliburton County.

"The Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre supports human connection and belonging through arts engagement," said Laurie Jones, the facility's executive director and curator, during a recent presentation to Dysart et al council. "We create shared experience in public space... We provide programming year round – art exhibitions, concerts and festivals, literary readings, book launches, family programming, music lessons, community outreach."

All of those programs come at a cost, Jones explained. While Dysart makes an annual contribution of \$50,000 to help offset some of the gallery's expenses, a considerable amount of its budget is covered by different events and fundraisers held over the course of the year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the gallery wasn't able to host nearly as many events as it usually does.

Popular annual events such as the Haliburton Arts and Craft Festival, the Haliburton Drum Festival and Trash and Treasures were all cancelled in 2020. As a result, the organization's fundraising dollars were well down last year.

While not quite cap in hand, Jones



Laurie Jones, executive director and curator of the Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre, is asking Dysart township to up its annual contribution of \$50,000 to offset revenues lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. /File photo

asked Dysart council if there was any way the municipality could increase its contribution this year.

"Last fiscal year, our expenses were \$181,000. Half of that was to do with staffing. Usually, money comes in a lot from events... so we're in a bit of a pinch here

[right now]," Jones said.

In lieu of asking for more money, Jones suggested the township alter the terms of the lease the gallery has on its building in the hopes they would start picking up the tab for hydro and propane. She estimated that would represent an increase of 12.5

per cent, or \$6,250, in 2021.

She also called on Dysart to fund a professional building inspection of the site, so that the gallery's staff can get a clear understanding of the repairs that need to be done and cost estimates to complete them.

"It's a really poorly insulated [building]. We've done everything we can to make it warmer in there," Jones said. "Staff can stay in the office, take their coats off and put a heater on, and it's okay for people coming in and passing through, as they're usually wearing coats in the winter. This doesn't help us with programming, and we would really like to be able to do more community programming."

Ward 2 Coun. Larry Clarke said the Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre was a key partner to the township, indicating he would be happy to support the request for additional funding.

"I don't think what they're asking us for is unreasonable. It's been a challenging year for anyone who relies on foot traffic. We have to support our partnerships," Clarke said. "Our arts community, it all ties into Fleming [College's School of Art + Design] and the identity Haliburton and Dysart is developing throughout the province and world. Visitors are looking towards the arts and how they can interact with our community, enjoy our community and spend money in our community. These are all things that are key to our success and ongoing growth."

Mayor Andrea Roberts said the request for additional funding would be considered during Dysart's 2021 budget deliberations, which begin this Friday, Jan. 8.

BIA In The Village – Happy New Year!

WELL 2020 IS officially over and I think we can all agree that it was time to bid the year adieu. The year behind us had its share of ups and downs and I think I can say with confidence that most of us are looking forward to 2021!

While the year is starting off with another lockdown, we want to take this time to remind everyone that most of our businesses are open and are offering services such as curbside pickup, local delivery, online shopping and more. I know many of them would love to hear from you and help you find whatever it is you might need. Most of our downtown merchants have signs in their front windows advertising what they are offering during the lockdown and if in doubt, they can typically be reached by phone or email. They need your support now more than ever and we hope you continue to shop local at every opportunity.

Our annual Buy In and Win contest has officially wrapped up and we want to congratulate our winner Terry Upton of West Guilford! Terry chose nine different local businesses to use her gift certificates at, and was thrilled upon hearing her ballot was pulled by Moose FM's Rick Lowes. Terry filled out her winning ballot at Master's Book Store. Thank you to all the businesses who participated in our annual contest and thank you to each and every one of you for shopping local this holiday

season!

Another successful initiative that took place this past December was a partnership between the Haliburton Lions Club and the BIA where they invited people to decorate our town Christmas tree. The idea was spearheaded by the Lions Club and the BIA was happy to participate! There was an array of beautiful decorations placed on the tree, which really gave the tree

some extra sparkle this year! And we all know how much we needed some extra sparkle in 2020. Thank you to everyone who participated!

The tree is scheduled to be removed in about two weeks time so we ask everyone who placed a decoration or ornament on the tree to please kindly remove it by Jan. 11. Ornaments that are left on the tree will not be saved. Once again we want to thank Kim Emmer-

son for donating the tree and Anthony and Juliane vanLieshout for providing the space and hydro to support the tree and its lights. And the Dysart fire department for putting it up and taking it down.

As we look ahead to 2021 the BIA continues to adjust to the pandemic restrictions while still offering exciting events and safe shopping. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

In the meantime stay safe, stay healthy and Happy New Year!

BIA in



angelica
ingram

The Village

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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

A silly tradition

WHEN YOU really think about it, New Year's resolutions are a bit silly.

It's a tradition that dates back some 4,000 years, to the time of the ancient Babylonians. There's evidence that the Greeks, the Romans and early Christians all subscribed to the idea in one form or another. Yes, I know it's a cliché, but some traditions are meant to be broken, and I wouldn't be at all sorry to see the New Year's resolution fall by the wayside.

Bear with me for a minute. According to recent research, the top 10 most common commitments individuals tend to make when ushering in the new year all have to do with personal improvement. I see it all the time on my social media feeds.

"New year, new me! This is when I finally follow through and..."

The lists go on and on. Exercising more, losing weight and quitting smoking are the big three, as I call them, while other frequent pop-ups include becoming more organized, saving more money, or learning a new skill or hobby.

These are all great goals, and I'm not trying to put down any of you who may have made a New Year's resolution with the intention of following through. But the stats don't lie. While doing some online reading over the weekend, I stumbled across an interesting column on the History Channel website. It referenced a report published by the Statistic Brain Research Institute that said as many as 45 per cent of Americans say they usually make New Year's resolutions, but only eight per cent of those are successful in achieving their goals.

I tried my best to find a Canadian comparative, but all I found was a 1,000-person poll completed in 2016 asking what new flavour of Timbit

Canucks would like to see introduced. Terry's Chocolate Orange was among the options. I couldn't make this up even if I tried.

Anyway, my point is that while many, many people will make a promise to change something about themselves this year, very few will actually follow through. I've been guilty of it myself in the past. You get caught up in the moment, see your friends and family making grandiose commitments and don't want to be left behind, so you jump in without really thinking it through.

The first few days, things go great. It was real easy giving up that beer and bag of chips. Running a mile on the treadmill wasn't so hard, maybe you'll push it up to two miles next week. Only next week doesn't happen. You've already stopped going to the gym. Why? Because you don't *really* want to change. If you did, you'd have done it already.

There's nothing at all magical about Jan. 1. There's a reason that, statistically, so few people

succeed with their New Year's resolution – their motivations are all wrong. Pushing things off and waiting for one day to come around every year to try and make real changes to your life is a recipe for failure.

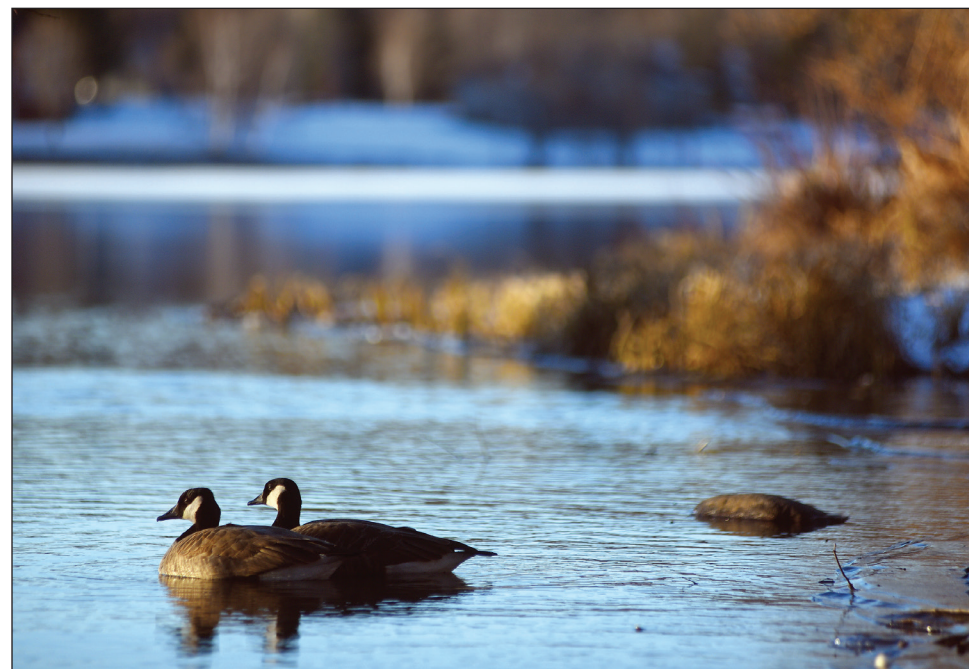
If you want to make a change, then by all means go ahead and make a change. But don't do it simply to conform to some weird idea that it's the right thing to do, or more aptly, the right time to do it.

Oh, and please, for the love of my uncle Pete, don't post about it on your Facebook account. Trust me, I'm saving you from some awkward encounters a few weeks from now when distant relatives or acquaintances ask you how your long forgotten about resolution is going.



mike
baker

Editorial



Canada Geese at sunset

by Darren Lum

Shine brightly

I'VE BEEN thinking about all the things that help us live our fullest and brightest lives. My friend recently did a workshop with a doctor who specializes in teaching & coaching about how to build resilience. One thing she came away with is that we should each eat two ounces of dark chocolate every day! So if you don't read any further in this article, go get some chocolate and enjoy a piece! It is making you stronger. I love that.

The doctor also talked about the power and impact of being grateful. An attitude of gratitude about the very smallest of things. Rumi said "wear your gratitude like a cloak and it will feed every corner of your life." I recently observed the moon at its fullest. It has been magnificent the last few nights and I am always delighted when it shines each month. Have you gone and stood outside in it?

I listened to a podcast where an energy teacher said "the full moon light can illuminate the light of your soul." This full moon has many names from different traditions including the Cold Moon, Frost Exploding Trees Moon, Winter Maker Moon and more. I feel like the moon is a gift that is walking all of us into 2021. It's light is so bright and reminds us that we too are full of light. We can walk to 2021 with love, confidence, hope and courage.

The moon is lighting the way to new possibilities and opportunities. 2020 is not the end of the story. As we look back on what was a very unique year, it might be helpful to reflect on what you have learned

about yourself over the past 12 months. What are the things that you have learned you loved and want to hold onto as we move forward.

This pandemic will end at some point and there will be things that you will never take for granted again, things that you love about your new life and will keep. And at the same time I am sure that there are things that you may have thought you needed, but that you have happily let go of. We are all evolving every day. We are constantly composing our lives. As I write this article I am aware that I wrote my first story in January 2010

and eleven years later, here I am, still writing away. It isn't always easy to be positive and to find stories and it has become a practice for me, of noticing the good. It has helped me throughout this pandemic to keep my mind focused on the positive.

Thank you for another year of reading and for the kind support. And I want to give a huge shout

out to my daughter Madeline who built a new website for me for 2021. It is something that I could not have done without her help. She is helping me stay in business in this technological world!

If you want to check it out look up www.haliburtonyoga.com. My blog and other goodies are on it. I look forward to sharing more good news stories with you in 2021. Shine brightly everyone. The world needs all of us.

Tales from
the great



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shadbolt

Green meadow

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points of view

Cold comfort

DESPITE MY best efforts, I don't think I placed well on Santa's naughty or nice list this year. That's the only reason I can think of that would explain why our hot water tank died on Christmas Day. Normally, this would have been a minor inconvenience, but because of the holidays, we had to wait until New Year's Eve to get it replaced.

Yet, horrible as this experience was, I learned two valuable things: First, I'm not cut out for the polar bear club. Second, shrinkage is real – and possibly even permanent.

Those of you who have had the pleasure of experiencing a hot water tank failure in winter know that the situation forces you to make difficult choices.

First there is the immediate one. Do I take bird baths in a sink full of stove-heated water or do I pretend nothing is wrong and shower under the frigid flow until I discover how high-pitched my screams can get? (For the record, that's a high C.)

But perhaps the worst choice is the impossible one that keeps you up at night. That being, do I turn our old hot water tank into a smoker or a bobsled?

Those of you who have been forced to choose between these two, know this is a decision no one can make for you. And you also know there is no right answer.

Yes, you can pass the buck and present your spouse with those two options, and they will probably insist you build the bobsled. If so, that is only because they are either trying to grow a social media channel or are the benefi-

ciary of your insurance policy.

The problem, as I see it, is that you can only do one. And, since hot water tanks don't die on us every day, it's a long wait till you can do the other.

That's why I did the only rational thing. I created a pros and cons list of both options.

Let's begin with the smoker.

Pros:

You can smoke fish, meat, and raccoons and squirrels out of nearby trees.

It looks just like a hot water tank so no one is ever going to try to steal it.

Build it right and the volunteer firefighters who show up will never forget it.

It provides you with yet another excuse to go fishing.

One day it might factor into your insanity plea.

Cons:

Can't think of a single one.

Now for the bobsled.

Pros:

With the right combination of non-stick spray and slope angle, you'll probably be the first in your family to create a sonic boom without the aid of bodily functions.

You'll never again waste time walking down a hill.

It gives you yet another reason to wear a bicycle helmet.

If you make the run challenging enough, you can market it as a sure-fire cure for constipation.

Cons:

Gives you yet another reason to wear a bicycle helmet.

Clean up, if you make the run challenging enough.

Of course, there is also a third option here, which is to do none of the above – and let a perfectly good, hot water tank go to waste. That's the option that Jenn is insisting we choose.

And, normally, I'd agree. Except I also recently learned I don't mind getting myself into a little hot water every now and then.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

On Nov. 24, 1976 this was the front page photo of the *Haliburton County Echo*. The Haliburton Beaconbrook Midgets opened up on Little Britain and came up with a 17-3 win in the game played the previous Saturday night at the Dysart Arena. The big guns for the Midgets were Rod Consack and Bernie Nicholls with 10 points each.

letters to the editor

Collect your Christmas Ornaments

To the Editor,

Thank you to all the families and kids that brought and hung decorations for the Haliburton Village town Christmas tree. They really add to the festive look of the tree this year.

If you would like to come into town and remove your decorations to keep them for next Christmas, please do so before Jan. 11.

We thank Kim Emmerson for donating the tree

and the Dysart fire crew for erecting it.

Thank you also to Anthony and Julianne van Lieshout for having it on their property and providing the hydro for the lights.

It really added to the spirit of main street this year.

Jim Frost
Haliburton and District Lions Club

A thank you to Jenn Watt

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Canadian Federation of University Women, Haliburton Highlands chapter, we would like to thank Jenn Watt for your support of our efforts on behalf of women and girls in Haliburton County.

You readily offered us space in your newspapers to advertise events, provided coverage of our speaker series and fundraisers and served as an excellent guest speaker to our group. Your profes-

sionalism, enthusiasm, and encouragement supported CFUW's purpose to promote and encourage higher education and improve the status of women in Haliburton.

Thank you and sincere best wishes in your new ventures.

Pam Hewitt-Osborne and Susan Vorvis
Co-Presidents,
CFUW, Haliburton Highlands

In praise of our large animal vet

To the Editor,

Some hard choices have been made in keeping healthy for everyone. We are supportive of our local Veterinarian, Dr. Aimee Filion who has sent a letter out ahead of time to indicate reduced hours in the spring when she will be the only large animal vet in the Haliburton Veterinary Clinic.

She will be available during set hours of the day, 6 days of the week. With a long term view, she is still trying to get another large animal vet for the local area in her mix practice. We all have the challenge to manage smarter to stay healthy.

With her being here, it gives our community more coverage than some other rural areas. We feel strongly that our vet needs the support to stay

healthy for the long term as she chooses to be here for local agricultural food security. As farmers, we can step up with our responsibilities to care for our animals with close observation and communication with Dr. Aimee as we share in the efforts of the community.

Thank you Dr. Aimee and the team at the clinic. We also want to thank Dr. Orna Feehan from Ireland for her two years service, as she returns to her home land early in 2021. The challenge to us as a community is to do our part for health as we reach out to get another large animal vet for our area.

Respectfully,
Godfrey and Jean Tyler

2020 Year in Review

January

Real estate firm terminated

Sixty-five real estate agents from across Muskoka and Haliburton County found themselves operating under something of a new banner at the turn of the year, transferring their licenses from one brokerage to another within the RE/MAX network.

The move followed hot on the heels of an announcement from the Real Estate Council of Ontario that a shortfall had been found in RE/MAX North Country Realty Inc.'s statutory real estate trust account – where consumer deposits are regularly held.

RE/MAX head office made the decision to terminate the North Country Realty brokerage on Dec. 23, 2019.

New Year's baby

Haliburton County's first baby of the year arrived on Jan. 5 – a beautiful little girl, Lennon Ivy Skelding. Weighing seven pounds, six ounces, Lennon was delivered with the help of the Midwifery Services of Haliburton-Bancroft. First-time parents Courtney Cook and Brandon Skelding couldn't have been happier welcoming their little bundle of joy into the world.

High school production

Enter stage right!

The Grade 11/12 drama class from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School recreated a cult classic back in January, performing their own rendition of The Rocky



2020 summed up in one picture

Wilberforce resident Stan Miczek completes his purchase behind a barrier with employee Andrea Costello at the LCBO on Thursday, May 21 in Wilberforce. Like all retailers, the Wilberforce location implemented various measures to reduce the spread of the coronavirus such as a plexiglass barrier at the cash register, sanitizer station for customers to use on their hands, as they enter, floor decals and directional signage to encourage social distancing and one-way traffic flow. / DARREN LUM Staff

Horror Picture Show at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

The story is centred on a young couple who seek refuge at a nearby castle when car trouble leaves them stranded in the country on a rainy night. At the castle, the couple meet a collection of characters, including the host of the residence and mad scientist, Dr. Frank-N-Furter.

Around 55 people attended the four performances staged by the students from Jan. 12 to 14.

The action, supported by members of both the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, was taken after negotiations between the unions and the provincial government over new teacher contracts stalled. This would be the first in a series of one-day strikes across the county.

Teachers were advocating for increased compensation, reduced class sizes and improving resources for students with special needs.

HSAD welcomes new dean

The Haliburton School of Art + Design, located in Haliburton, welcomed a new dean in early January. Angela Stukator has an extensive history as a post-secondary administrator, serving in a variety of positions with Toronto's Sheridan College, most recently as associate dean of Animation and Game Design, prior to her move north. Stukator is also dean of the School of General Arts and Sciences at Fleming College.

One-day strikes close schools

Rotating one-day strikes involving teachers at the county's high school, alternate education centre and elementary schools forced Trillium Lakelands District School Board into closing all of its facilities on Jan. 21

New Rotaract Club welcomes young adults

Plans to launch a new organization for young adults in Haliburton officially got underway in the new year.

The Rotaract Club of Haliburton County was formed through a partnership between the Rotary Club of Haliburton and the Young Professionals Network of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce. The new club will bring more service and international opportunities through Rotaract's network of 20,000 clubs in 159 countries.

Rotaract is for young adults between the ages of 18 and 30. The club enjoyed a successful first year in operation, now boasting 35 members.

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Taxes going up

Haliburton County residents saw a 1.67 percent increase on the upper tier portion of their tax bills in 2020.

For residential properties, the increase translated to an additional \$3.52 for every \$100,000 of assessment, determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). For commercial properties, the increase amounted to an extra \$5.61 for every \$100,000 worth of assessment, while industrial properties faced an additional \$6.04 for every \$100,000 of assessment.

Concerning report

Nearly half of snowmobile fatalities in Ontario in the past 10 years occurred on frozen lakes or rivers; 45 per cent involved alcohol or drugs; and 34 per cent were in Central Region; which includes the Haliburton Highlands, according to a report published by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) in January.

Excessive speed and driving too fast for the conditions were two of the top factors in the 175 snowmobile-related deaths in the province over the past decade.

Dysart fire chief Mike Iles noted the local department responded to one snowmobile accident in 2019, although numbers can fluctuate drastically on an annual basis. 2015 was a particularly bad year, Iles said, with the department reacting to seven snowmobile accidents. Highlands East fire chief Chris Baughman said his department typically responds to three or four snowmobile collisions per year.

Family fundraiser

Highlands East's Station 2 took over the Highlands Grove Community Centre on Jan. 18, but they weren't there for training or to fight a fire.

Instead, the volunteer firefighters and their families were cooking up breakfasts in the hall's kitchen, raising more than \$2,000 for the Normandeau-Hennessey family, who lost their Cooney Road home to an electrical fire on Dec. 9.

Early signs

Haliburton Highlands Health Services [HHHS] announced it was taking "necessary actions" to help protect the health and safety of residents within its boundaries as concerns over the 2019 novel coronavirus, which would become known as COVID-19, grew.

The World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak, first reported in China in late 2019, a global health emergency on Jan. 30. While HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer said the federal government had indicated the risk and threat to Canada was low, the local health organization wanted to take steps to educate locals about the virus.

Increased signage at emergency departments, travel screening for those exhibiting flu-like symptoms, and necessary infection prevention precautions were put into place at area hospitals and health-care centres.

Another hike

Dysart et al council hit local homeowners with a 3.65 per cent increase to their 2020 taxes on Jan. 28. For residential properties, the hike equated to an increase of \$10.36 for every \$100,000 of assessment. For commercial properties that figure rose to \$15.36 for every \$100,000 of assessment, and for industrial properties it increased to \$17.80 for every \$100,000 of assessment.

February

Winter edition

The Hike Haliburton Festival introduced a new winter event to the community on Feb. 8 and 9.

Traditionally hosting an event in the fall, the organization was able to expand this year after receiving some additional funds from the provincial government. The winter festival was described as a "pilot" by Amanda Virtanen, Haliburton County's director of tourism.

The event offered a wide range of themed activities, including snowshoeing, hiking, concerts, dinners and camping experiences. All hikes were offered free of charge. Hundreds of people turned out over the course of the weekend, making the first-time event a huge success.

Support for local youth

Following months of preparation, the Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub officially opened up its doors to the community on Feb. 6.

The importance of mental health and addictions services and having a dedicated support system for the county's youth was brought to the fore during an opening ceremony event, which brought service providers, youth advocates, community organizers and users together with dignitaries such as local MPP Laurie Scott and Christine Elliott, Ontario's Deputy Premier and Minister of Health.

Several spoke about a system that can "make young people feel neglected" during especially vulnerable times. Joey Varga told the story of her older brother, Morgan, who committed suicide in 2017.

The hub project had been in the works for several years. The Ministry of Health contributed more than \$500,000 to the initiative over a three-year period, while the Youth Wellness Hub Ontario project at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health committed \$670,000. Local donors provided an additional \$68,000 towards the construction of the facility, located at 12 Dysart Ave. in Haliburton Village.



MPP Laurie Scott, left, Health Minister and Deputy Premier Christine Elliott, and Point in Time executive director Marg Cox applaud the band the Bones of Jim Jones during a tour of the Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub on Thursday, Feb. 6 in Haliburton. The hub is a safe space for youth and young adults to socialize with others and access services and supports for mental health and addictions, primary care and sexual health, employment and vocational supports, income supports and housing help, and other responsive services as needs rise. / DARREN LUM Staff

Draft shoreline bylaw

An issue that continues to polarize today was discussed at length at a Haliburton County council meeting on Feb. 12, as residents both concerned by and interested in the adoption of a new shoreline protection bylaw made their case to the region's top elected officials.

The goals and objectives of the enhanced bylaw include ensuring no further loss of natural shorelines, increasing the proportion of natural/native vegetative cover, and working toward a goal of 75 per cent natural/native vegetative cover overall for better lake health. The idea, says Charley White, the county's director of planning, is to provide additional protection to natural shoreline vegetation, regulate site alteration and monitor cleaning and clearing of land.

The issue continues to be debated at the county level.

Firework ban

Highlands East council voted in new restrictions surrounding the use of fireworks.

Following a recorded 3-2 vote, council decided to restrict the use of consumer fireworks to holidays, which includes the weekend preceding and following the holiday.

2020 Poker Run

The 31st annual Haliburton Forest Poker Run drew more than 600 participants on Feb. 8, who together helped to raise \$20,000 for the Haliburton Firefighters Association.

The money will help the volunteer department purchase equipment that helps to keep firefighters safe and their rescues efficient. In the past they have purchased gear such as the jaws of life, rescue boats, snowmobiles and trailers.

Flag raising

Fleming College president Maureen Adamson said she was honoured to be at the inaugural Pride flag raising at Haliburton School of Art + Design on Feb. 19, but noted that she wished the event had happened sooner.

Adamson said the college wanted to show its support for diversity and inclusion, and that's why the flag was being raised.

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Service Above Self



The Red Hawks senior boys' curling team of Owen Nicholls, from left, Corin Gervais, Liam Little and Jacob Dobson were proud of their 2020 season, having repeated as COSSA champions on March 9 in Stirling, Ontario. The team had aspirations to finish on the podium at the all-provincials, but had their dreams derailed by the recent announcement by OFSAA to cancel the curling championship due to recommendations related to efforts to combat the spread of the coronavirus. Photo submitted by Darrell Dobson.

"We stand with you, we stand beside you, and we stand for you," Adamson said.

The Pride flag was also raised at Fleming's other campuses in Peterborough and Lindsay.

We are the champions

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's boys curling team captured the Ontario School Curling Provincial Championship title after a dramatic finish to the final match-up, held in Chatham on Feb. 15.

The team, made up of Jacob Dobson, Liam Little, Corin Gervais and Owen Nicholls, went 4-1 in the competition, defeating the Carlton Place Bears in a nervy final. The quarter would go on to win the regional COSSA title in March, but the COVID-19 pandemic prevented them from competing in the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) finals, which were to take place in Uxbridge from March 25 to 28.

March

A well-earned retirement

Following a near 40-year career as a vet, much of it spent right here in Haliburton County, Dr. Laurie Brown officially hung up her stethoscope in 2020.

Dr. Brown grew up in the Highlands and, upon graduating from the University of Guelph, returned home, opening Haliburton Veterinary Services in April 1984. The clinic would grow drastically over the years, and continues on to this day, led by the team of Dr. Aimée Filion, Dr. Nikolai Simkulak and Dr. Orna Feehan.

OFSAA experience

A pair of local wrestlers competed on the provincial stage pre-lockdown, representing Haliburton Highlands Secondary School at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association (OFSAA) championships in Sault Ste. Marie from March 2 to 4.

Senior students Nic Graham (Grade 12) and Eli Samson (Grade 11) credited their coach, Paul Klose, for laying the foundation and giving them the tools they needed to succeed. While neither finished with a medal, they each secured a pair of wins against some of the best wrestlers in their weight class in Ontario.

Pandemic begins

As the world comes to grips with the growing COVID-19 crisis, declared a pandemic by the WHO on March 11, many entities within Haliburton County took steps to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus in our region.

While Premier Doug Ford announced, on March 12, that all publicly funded schools would remain closed for a further two weeks following March break, health services across the province were initiating different safety measures, including lockdowns, to protect staff and vulnerable residents. Haliburton Highlands Health Services scaled back points of entry at its facilities, with all staff, visitors and volunteers being screened upon arrival. Long-term and acute care services were closed off to all non-essential visitors.

Group programs, such as diabetes workshops, balanced fitness/falls prevention sessions, adult day program, grief support, social recreation drop-ins, dinner clubs and cancer support groups were also cancelled.

Fleming College's Haliburton campus cancelled all in-person classes, directing all students to continue their studies online.

A thing of the past

The Haliburton County Public Library announced it would no longer be issuing fines for late book returns.

Erin Kernohan-Berning, the library's deputy CEO, believes the move will encourage more individuals to use the county facility. When the Chicago Public Library went fine free in 2019, it found that within three weeks of implementing their new policy there was a 240 per cent increase in the return of materials, and an additional 400 more library card renewals over the same time in the previous year.

Silver medals

The Haliburton County Red Wolves five-pin bowling team captured silver at the Special Olympics National Winter games, held in Thunder Bay. Coached by Rick West, the team, made up of Marianne Stammers, Casey Heley, Andrew Bourgeois, Lucas Anderson and Kim Buie, were "ecstatic" at their second-place finish.

While the quintet were, officially, representing Ontario in the competition, each of them reside within Haliburton County. With that, West says the team "in their hearts" were competing for the Haliburton Highlands.

First casualty

The jurisdiction served by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit experienced its first COVID-19 related death, after a man in his 80s passed away at Lindsay's Ross Memorial Hospital on March 22.

Home delivery

With Ontarians encouraged to stay home whenever possible, Haliburton Foodland joined forces with the Rotary Club of Haliburton to develop a delivery service designed to get grocery orders to people's homes.

Around a dozen volunteers offered their services at 4 p.m. Monday to Friday to assist those who didn't feel safe leaving their home.

Disaster strikes

Seven residents of the Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon died following complications related to COVID-19, while more than 20 of the home's staff have tested positive for the virus, making it the worst outbreak in Ontario.

As of March 30, health officials stated that a further 35 residents of the nursing home were showing symptoms of COVID-19. The nursing home closed its doors to visitors on March 14.

Over the next six weeks, the outbreak at the home would claim a further 21 lives – taking the final death toll to 28 residents. A spouse of one of the deceased residents also died of COVID-19 complications.

Signed on the dotted line

The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) reached a tentative agreement over a new contract with the province on March 20, following months of negotiations and job action.

Under the new agreement, Ontario's elementary teachers agreed to salary increases of one per cent a year for three years, while all members also received a four per cent annual increase to benefits. The deal also contains a Support for Students fund, which ETFO said would create 434 teacher positions, meant to address areas such as special education, English language learners and mental-health initiatives. The government also made a commitment in writing to maintain the current full-day kindergarten structure.

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April

Haliburton's first case

A man in his 90s who had no recent history of travel or contact with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 was the first person in Haliburton County to test positive for the novel coronavirus.

The man would go on to make a full recovery after being officially diagnosed on April 1. In the months since, Haliburton County has seen a further 33 individuals contract COVID-19, with all of those cases being reported as resolved. At press time, there were five Haliburton County residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Festival cancelled

One of Haliburton County's most popular summer attractions, the Highlands Summer Festival, announced on April 6 that it had no other choice than to cancel its 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2020 festival was set to feature *The Sound of Music*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Lucien* and *Across the Pond*.

The run continues

Haliburton resident Sue Shikaze had hoped to participate in the 2020 Boston Marathon, having qualified for the event by running the Hamilton Marathon two years ago.

Originally scheduled to take place on April 20, the Boston Marathon was pushed back until Sept. 14, before being cancelled altogether. Like Shikaze, Duncan Farthing-Nichol, who is the grandson-in-law of local resident, Mary McKee chose to run the 26.2 mile run of the 125th iteration in Haliburton County.

Both hoped to be able to travel to Boston and run the real thing in the future – Shikaze has ran in three Boston Marathons since 2003, while this would have been Farthing-Nichol's first.

Musical interludes

Bill Gliddon is a self-confessed people pleaser. The 80-year-old Haliburton County resident spent a considerable amount of time earlier this year singing the blues down the phone to excited residents from long-term care facilities in the community.

For an hour or two a day four days a week at the height of the first wave of the pandemic, Bill reached out to more than a dozen residents isolated at Highland Wood and Extendicare-Haliburton, playing his keyboard and singing old-school classics to provide a little entertainment to those on the other end.

Drafted

Former Red Hawk Alex Little is hoping to follow in the footsteps of names such as Matt Duchene and Cody Hodgson after he was drafted 41st overall in the 2020 OHL under-18 Priority Selection.

Watching the draft from his home in Minden with his parents via a live-stream on YouTube, Little admitted to being "in shock" when he was taken in the second round by the North Bay Battalion. The five-foot-11 defenceman played for the AAA North Bay Trappers major midget team in 2019/20, and previously turned out for the AAA Central Ontario Wolves minor midget team, based in Lindsay.

Dog attack

Six-year-old Sadie Lester, and her mom Lindsay, were out for a walk on Gainforth Road on Easter Sunday (April 12) when they were viciously attacked by a pair of Saint Bernard dogs. Lindsay sustained non-life threatening injuries to her back and arm, while Sadie was flown by Ornge air ambulance to SickKids hospital in Toronto with critical injuries. While she had a long road ahead of her as she bid to make a full recovery, Sadie would return home on April 17.

Haliburton Highlands OPP later confirmed the dogs were euthanized at the request of their owners.

Another show postponed

Another one bit the dust, so to speak, in early spring as the Haliburton Home and Cottage Show cancelled its 2020 event.

Organizers of the show investigated other venues and dates in an attempt to ensure the annual tradition, originally slated to take place May 29 to 31, could go ahead. An outdoor show at Head Lake Park was considered, but uncertainty about when public facilities would be available again, and when physical distancing restrictions would be lifted cemented their decision to cancel.

The annual event was first launched in 1977.

Secondary agreement

The Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, along with the Ontario Public School Boards Association, OSSTF Education Workers and Council of Trustees' Associations, reached a tentative three-year deal with the provincial government.

Teachers had been working without a contract since last summer, and while OSSTF job action, including rotating one-day strikes, had been ramping up throughout the winter, the COVID-19 crisis meant that all publicly funded schools were closed from March break through to the remainder of the school year. With the government backing down on plans to increase class sizes and some requirements for minimum amounts of e-learning, alongside the union agreeing to an offer of a one per cent salary increase over a three year period for teachers, a deal was reached.

May

Graduation postponed

All June graduation ceremonies throughout the Trillium Lakelands District School Board were postponed, following a letter sent out to the community on May 1. They would eventually take place in a virtual format later in the summer.

Now available

A second edition of *Profiles of the Presidents*, a historical book about the Rotary Club of Haliburton, was released in May. Written by Len Pizzey, a retired journalist and former owner of the *Echo*, the book was a follow-up to a previous publication released to mark the club's 50th anniversary back in 1994.

The book is available for purchase at Glecoff's Family Store and includes photos and short biographies of each of the Rotary club's past presidents.

Giving back

Local teacher Blake Paton spent some of the free time he had on his hands during the first few months of the COVID-19 pandemic fixing up around 50 donated bikes and distributing them throughout the community.

In a message posted on his social media account, Paton asked for donations of bicycles and offered repairs in exchange for donations to the food bank. Some people travelled from as far away as Lindsay and Bobcaygeon to make use of his services. In total, Paton estimates there was more than \$2,000 donated to food banks in the area.

Takeout only

Several local restaurants made the decision to reopen in May, albeit for takeout only.

When the provincial government announced it would be implementing lockdown measures province-wide in an attempt to combat the growing COVID-19 crisis, many eateries were faced with no option than to close



Family of Maria Basciano gathered outside her window on Sunday, May 10 to wish her a happy Mother's Day. The day also included a car caravan that circled outside the windows so residents could see the colourful signs created by their family members. This sign reads "We love you Nonna." /JENN WATT File photo

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Lauren Chisholm looks to throw her disc into the basket during a round of disc golf on Monday, June 15 at Head Lake Park in Haliburton. Chisholm was playing disc golf with Mitch Pynn for the first time last summer. / DARREN LUM Staff



their doors. Weeks later, popular Haliburton restaurants such as Baked and Battered and Kosy Korner reopened, offering a pick-up service to residents.

As of May 11, there were 18 restaurants open for take-out, according to myhaliburtonhighlands.com.

Provincial reopening

Representatives of the county's business community said there was "cautious optimism" among their membership following the provincial government's decision to begin stage one of the economic reopening process.

On May 14, Premier Doug Ford released a list of businesses allowed to reopen or expand their offerings in Ontario, including all medical services, counsellors, golf courses, marinas, veterinarians, housekeeping, pet grooming and training, some retail services and construction.

Honouring our first responders

Members of the Haliburton community came together towards the end of the month to celebrate Paramedic Services Week.

With the theme of 'Paramedics on the Front Line,' residents recognized the important role paramedics serve to the front lines of the healthcare system during the COVID-19 pandemic. The week long event ran from May 24 to 30, and honoured 49 emergency responders across Haliburton County.

Doggy food bank

While staff and volunteers at area food banks worked overtime to make sure residents in need are properly taken care of during the COVID-19 pandemic, one local launched an initiative of her own to help our favourite four-legged friends.

Cheryl-Ann Haywood, through her initiative Puppy Paw's Pantry, provided dog food free of charge to those in need amid the coronavirus crisis. Her service, which began on May 10, could be accessed discreetly, and would see Haywood deliver dry or wet dog food to an individual's place of residence with no questions asked.

Surgeries commence

Haliburton Highlands Health Services commenced with non-urgent procedures and tests in June, three months on from their postponement due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ontario Health provided formal approval to the local

hospital, alongside other facilities in Campbellford, Cobourg, Peterborough and Lindsay, to resume non-urgent surgeries, procedures and tests as of May 29

June

Defunct club

The Haliburton Soccer Club is no more, officially ceasing to exist as of June 1, but that doesn't necessarily mean the sport is dead in the local community.

Past club executive members Chris Carere and Andrea Mueller told the *Echo* the club had simply "run its course." Now, they are leading the charge for the next chapter of soccer in the area. Carere has committed to facilitating adult soccer, leaning towards a pick-up game system, while Mueller is looking to help with organizing youth soccer.

County cancellation

Haliburton County made the decision to cancel the 2020 fall Hike Haliburton Festival.

Hike Haliburton is the county's signature event, taking place each fall and including dozens of guided hikes at locations throughout the region. Planning for the event, including organizing the hikes, retaining volunteer guides and attaining sponsorships, typically takes place throughout May and June, but with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it was deemed unsafe to move ahead.

Haliburton rocks

You may have noticed something different on your walks around Haliburton this past summer – painted rocks.

In June, local resident Louise Deegan launched a Facebook page called Haliburton Rocks, hoping to inspire the Haliburton community to join her in painting rocks with uplifting messages and placing them near sidewalks on walking trails in the area. Within days, the group had amassed 100 members, and residents started spotting decorative rocks in different places across Haliburton.

Stage 2

A number of Haliburton businesses were given the green light to reopen, in a slightly modified fashion, on

June 12 as the provincial government enacted Stage 2 of its COVID-19 recovery process.

As a result of the order, outdoor dine-in services at restaurants, bars and other establishments were given permission to resume, with proper health and safety protocols in place. Also on the list were personal care services such as barber shops and hair salons, beauty salons and tattoo parlours. Tours, including biking, walking, bus and boat tours, as well as tasting tours at wineries, breweries and distilleries also resumed. Recreational water facilities, such as splash pads, wading pools and swimming pools also reopened, as did outdoor recreational facilities for team sports. Camping at private campgrounds was also approved.

New owners

County Rose, Haliburton's go-to garden centre since 1986, secured new owners, ensuring the site will remain open to the community for years to come.

Shelley Stiles and her husband Doug are the proud new owners of the facility. The couple also own Blake Storage in Haliburton. They purchased County Rose from long-time Haliburton community members Joan and Art Ward.

Centennial celebration

Members of the Haliburton Lions Club celebrated a significant milestone in June – the year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International in Canada. While the local club was founded in 1978, members came together to recognize the occasion. To mark it, the local club donated \$2,500 to cover the cost of planting six new willow trees along the banks of the river in Head Lake Park to help prevent erosion.

Powerful storm

A powerful summer storm ripped through the community on June 10, bringing down trees and leaving hundreds of residents across Haliburton County without power. More than a dozen Hydro One vehicles could be seen parked by Head Lake over the next week as workers sought to bring residents back online.

Stolen property found

Two residents of Highlands East were charged with a variety of offences following the recovery of stolen items worth around \$80,000.

The OPP East Region's street crime unit executed warrants at a residence on Squirrel Lane on June 11 and 18, recovering stolen property including ATVs, watercraft, kayaks, generators, a hot tub, electronics, power and hand tools and a picnic table. Along with the stolen items, police also found a quantity of crystal methamphetamine.

A 35-year-old man and 69-year-old woman from Highlands East each face a slew of charges, including possession of property obtained by crime, and careless storage and unauthorized possession of a firearm.

Educator retires

Following an extensive 31-year career as an educator in Ontario, Andrea Borysiuk officially retired at the end of the 2019/20 school year.

Most recently, Borysiuk spent six years as principal of J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton, taking up the position in 2014. Prior to that, she spent three years as principal at Stuart Baker Elementary School.

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Athletes honoured

Isaac Little and Emma Casey were recognized as the 2020 Athletes of the Year at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

As an assistant captain with the Red Hawks hockey team, Little was a consummate teammate on the ice, helping his team to a strong season in his senior year. He was a star in the provincial cross-country circuit, competing at the OFSAA provincial championships in 2019. He holds school records in the junior boys 3,000 metre run and steeple chase event.

Casey was part of the local curling, volleyball, field hockey and track and field teams. During her time at HHSS, Casey played in the OFSAA volleyball championship, earned multiple trips to the East Regional OFSAA event in track, and competed in two COSSA finals with the field hockey team.

Wreaking havoc

Police say several vehicles were damaged after a bear, who seemingly developed the ability to open car doors, broke into more than 10 of them on June 23 and 24.

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands OPP were called to the Kennaway and Dudley Road area of Dysart et al on June 23 after numerous cars had, apparently, been broken into. One unlucky couple, Gord Woolsey and Joan Michie found their Honda SUV completely destroyed after observing a bear ripping and tearing away at different parts of the car's interior.

Police asked that residents keep their cars locked and make sure there is nothing left inside a vehicle, such as open food, that could attract hungry bears. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry set a bear trap in the area.

July

Market heating up

Andrew Hodgson, of Century 21 Granite Realty Group in Haliburton, said the summer market was incredibly busy as more people look to relocate to cottage country amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prices in 2020 were up 12 per cent over the previous year, Hodgson said, as people look to take advantage of low interest rates, better services and a picturesque getaway from the GTA. With more and more people now working from home, Hodgson says many investors were taking advantage of that and relocating to the Haliburton Highlands.

Minister visit

Ontario Minister of Tourism Lisa MacLeod had nothing but good things to say about the Highlands as she walked through the Haliburton Sculpture Forest on July 9 as part of her 'Reopening Ontario' tour.

"It's a perfect mix of nature, art and heritage and it just has an abundance of beauty and meaning. I'd come back for sure," Minister MacLeod said of the forest.

Following her tour, the minister visited the Minden Whitewater Preserve on Horseshoe Lake in Minden.

New rule

Face masks were made mandatory for local residents wanting to visit businesses in Haliburton County as of July 17.



Dozens of people walk with Evan Natale, in black wearing a rainbow mask, during the Walk with Evan demonstration of support on Wednesday evening, July 22 in Harcourt. There were estimates of more than 80 people, who came out to walk, as a show of solidarity for the 18-year-old who had experienced verbal harassment by one household because of his sexual orientation. /DARREN LUM Staff

As per instructions issued by Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, medical officer of health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, all businesses were directed to turn away customers if they are not wearing a non-medical mask or face covering. Exceptions were given to children under the age of two, those with developmental disabilities who are unable to wear a mask, or individuals with a health issue that prevents them from wearing a mask, such as respiratory disease or various cognitive challenges.

Breaking ground

Work began on the new information centre for Haliburton Village on July 13. Located beside the village caboose, the collaboration between the Municipality of Dysart et al and the Rotary Club of Haliburton is to create an info centre and public washrooms for Head Lake Park.

Harrowing incident

73-year-old Haliburton County resident Leslie Hegedus was shot and killed by members of the Haliburton Highlands OPP on July 15 following a shootout near his home on Indian Point Road, north of Haliburton village.

Earlier in the day, Hegedus was involved in a confrontation at Minden's Valu-Mart grocery store, where he allegedly assaulted an employee after refusing to wear a face mask. Upon leaving the store, he got into his vehicle and, according to store owner Linda Easton, hit a truck and attempted to run down store employees before speeding away on Highway 35. Police would pursue Hegedus and, upon arriving at his home, two officers were involved in a shootout, which resulted in the man's death.

The OPP's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) assigned four investigators and two forensic investigators to look into the incident.

Standing with Evan

About 80 people showed their support for local resident Evan Natale, who endured verbal homophobic harassment from a neighbour, by joining the Walk with Evan event in Harcourt on July 22.

Organized by Evan's mother, Debbie, and friend

Wayne Beker, the walk started at Evan's home, led by an ATV as a traffic escort, followed by Evan, friends and several horseback riders from the South Algonquin Trails. Elite Canadian curler and Highlands East cottager John Epping was among the dozens in attendance, commending Evan and Debbie for their effort. Epping, who came out as gay to friends and family several years ago, said he too has faced harassment in the past because of his sexual orientation.

August

Back to school

When the school bell rings in September, students in Haliburton County will be able to head back full-time, the provincial government announced in early August.

After weeks of parents fretting, going over three options the Ontario government had recommended for public schools – full-time learning, distance learning, or a hybrid of the two – it was revealed that back to school would really mean back to school in the fall.

Under the plan, local schools would join other schools in the province in reopening on Sept. 8, with elementary and high school students in Haliburton County returning to the classroom five days a week.


About 2,000 elementary students and 700 secondary students across the school board signed up for online learning, which had a delayed start to the school year.

Dysart approves video surveillance

Dysart et al councillors adopted a new video surveillance policy for the municipality, following in the footsteps of Haliburton County and Minden Hills councils, who also recently voted in favour of embracing video technology throughout their communities.

Its guiding principles include that data from cameras would be collected only when authorized by statute, required by law enforcement, "or when necessary to the proper administration of a lawfully authorized activity." That would, in essence, minimize the amount of data

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Paramedics from the services of Haliburton County and the City of Peterborough ride down Highland Street during the annual Paramedic Memorial Bell Tour on Wednesday, Sept. 16 in Haliburton. This ride raises money to support the Paramedic Memorial Foundation, which is looking to construct a monument in Ottawa to commemorate paramedics who have died on duty. The riders rode from Haliburton to Peterborough, stopping in Minden, Kinmount, Bobcaygeon, Buckhorn and Lakefield, covering close to 140 kilometres on the day. /DARREN LUM Staff

that will be collected, with data retained for “no longer than is required,” indicating it will be deleted on a regular basis. Signs will be erected in areas where video surveillance is in use.

Successful tournament

Water Ambassadors Canada’s eighth annual Charity Golf Classic raised more than \$32,000 thanks to the support of the local community.

With 84 golfers, 17 volunteers and staff of the Pine-stone and a collection of businesses that sponsored three hole-in-one holes and several challenge games, the fundraiser will help fund close to 13 Water Ambassadors’ projects, which cost \$2,500 on average. Water Ambassadors Canada is a faith-based, non-profit organization that works to provide clean water to remote, developing communities around the world.

Relief funding

Haliburton County and its four lower-tier townships collectively received some \$2.87 million in COVID-19 relief funding from the provincial government, money to help offset operating pressures related to the ongoing pandemic.

The upper tier of the county will receive \$1.435 million, the Municipality of Dysart et al \$475,400, the Township of Minden Hills \$402,200, Highlands East \$281,700 and the Township of Algonquin Highlands \$275,900.

Helping our hospital

Moose FM held a radiothon Aug. 13 and 14 in support of Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. The event raised \$32,234, and would go towards the purchase of vital signs monitors for the hospitals in Minden and Haliburton.

Store closing

Following three decades of operation in downtown Haliburton, it was announced that JoAnne Sharpley’s Source for Sports would soon be closing.

The store has been a Haliburton destination for much

of its existence, outfitting hockey players, skiers, snowboarders, kayakers, runners and practically every other kind of athlete over the years. JoAnne owned and operated the store for 29 years, after purchasing the old Sports Stop in 1991.

September

Affordable housing planned

County-based housing organization Places for People is asking the County of Haliburton to partner with it on the development of an affordable housing project that would be located on an undeveloped portion of the Wee Care property along County Road 21.

“Our specific goal is 10 to 12 units by September of 2022,” Fay Martin, the organization’s vice president, informed members of county council.

Places for People currently owns five properties, with a total of eight rental units in the county. It purchased and renovated those dwellings, renting them to tenants at affordable rates, with the goal of putting those tenants in a position to become owners of their own homes at some point. Eighteen families have lived in its buildings during the 13 years it has existed.

Jody Curry, president of Places for People, said the organization’s goal is to create 10 to 12 units every two to three years. This initiative would help the county meet its own goal of creating 750 housing units over the next decade.

Fate of Haliburton mills uncovered

A special feature article provided by Steve Hill, curator of the Haliburton Highlands Museum, looked into the mystery of what happened to the village’s sawmill and gristmill in the late 1800s.

There are no known photographs of the gristmill and sawmill, built in Haliburton Village in 1866 and 1864 respectively, but they were once considered the economic driver of the region. Hill uncovered an excerpt

from the *Lindsay Warden* newspaper of Aug. 27, 1896, which describes a tragic fire that destroyed the two mills in less than two hours early one summer morning. The mills were not rebuilt and, as Hill says, were simply forgotten over time.

Students return

For the first time in six months, students returned to the classroom in early September, although it was far from a normal return.

Bruce Reain, Trillium Lakelands District School Board board chairperson, said each classroom within the district would be reconfigured to allow for appropriate social distancing, with class sizes likely to be lower as a result. Also, all staff and students will be required to wear a face mask at all times.

Getting in the holiday spirit

Some lucky dogs from Haliburton County’s Winterdance Dogsled Tours tested out their acting chops this summer, joining the cast of Christmas in the Rockies, a holiday romance, for two days of filming.

Siberian huskies Maverick and Charlie went to Newmarket one day, while puppies Wiggles, Calypso and Jacques spent the day on the set in Barrie in another. The movie aired on CityTV this past holiday season.

Pride flags targeted

Christopher O’Mara says that growing up in Haliburton, there wasn’t a day for him between Grades 6 and 12 in which he wasn’t called a homophobic slur. In 2016, the window of his pet grooming salon, Prettypaws Pet Boutique, was spray painted with a slur, and three months later his business door was as well. In March 2020, he received a signed letter from a community member stating she was deeply offended by the Pride flags he has flown since Minden Pride 2019.

On Sept. 6, O’Mara was again the target of what he is calling a hate crime.

Two pride flags hanging in front of his home and business were damaged and stolen, with the perpetrators leaving Canadian flags flying next to them alone.

“Once again, I find myself feeling shaken and questioning whether or not it is worth it to be a vocal queer advocate in our community,” O’Mara said.

Ride to remember

Paramedics from the services of Haliburton County and the City of Peterborough ride down Highland Street during the annual Paramedic Memorial Ball Tour on Sept. 16. The ride raises money to support the Paramedic Memorial Foundation, which is looking to construct a monument in Ottawa to commemorate paramedics who have died on duty. They rode from Haliburton to Peterborough, stopping in Minden, Kinmount, Bobcaygeon, Buckhorn and Lakefield, covering close to 140 kilometres on the day.

Concerning uptick

Preliminary data in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district reports 15 suspected overdose deaths from January to May of this year, compared to 20 opioid related overdose deaths in all of 2019.

Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, medical officer of health for the HKPRDHU, noted the local unit was continuing to support a variety of harm reduction programs in an attempt to reduce the number of overdoses in the area.

“The health unit continues to provide the needle exchange program and the naloxone program, as well

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as its opioid surveillance, early warning and local opioid response programs,” Dr. Noseworthy said.

Science not silence

Protestors demanding action on climate change lined Highland Street on Sept. 25, standing alongside fellow protestors across the globe in a conjoined effort to mark the Global Day of Climate Action.

Organized by the Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County and Environment Haliburton, the event was limited to 25 people at a time. Those in attendance came out with signs, placing themselves along the road east of the intersection of Gelert Road, waving at motorists and gesturing to transport trucks to blow their horns.

The Global Day of Climate Action was created by the youth-led organization Fridays for Future, which demands that measures be taken to keep the global temperature from rising to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, ensure climate justice and equity, and that governments abide by the Paris Agreement.

October

Infrastructure upgrades

Local MPP Laurie Scott announced the Ontario government would be providing \$22,000 to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services to cover the replacement of the split duct air conditioning units for the x-ray room and cafeteria at the Haliburton hospital.

In making the announcement on Oct. 2, Scott also revealed an increase of \$199,000 for the HHHS corporation to help with increased operating costs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Studio tour busy

The Haliburton Highlands Studio Tour celebrated its 33rd year of operation on Oct. 3 and 4.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, 12 artists decided to participate this year, down from 40 artists that were originally slated to partake in the tour. Participating in the event were Paradigm Designs and Pottery Lane Studio, A Stitch at a Time and Blackbird Pottery and Artech Studios.

The tour operated for two weekends, and was considered to be a big success given the circumstances of the pandemic.

HCDC funding through multiple programs

Over the last fiscal year, and in the months since the coronavirus pandemic began, Haliburton County Development Corporation has been making funding available to the county’s business community, with hundreds of thousands flowing through multiple programs.

On Oct. 7, the organization held its annual general meeting via Zoom, where it was revealed that 21 loans were distributed throughout the community for a total of \$932,500. HCDC also administered the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, which saw a further 26 loans handed out, for a total of \$818,000. Since May, there has been a total cash injection of just over \$1.5 million through the organization’s programming.

Barnum Creek opening

Kilometres of hiking trails, mixed forest, wetlands,

open field and a picturesque waterfall were made accessible to the general public when Barnum Creek Nature Reserve opened on Oct. 16.

The 500-acre property, donated to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust by Leopoldina and Margaret Dobrzensky in 2018, had been undergoing trail work in preparation for its opening, and now includes a kiosk, new signage and marked trails. Barnum Creek is one of five land trust properties in Haliburton County, and is the third one to be opened to the public, after Dahl Forest and Norah’s Island.

Community rallies

An outpouring of support and donations came in for the Brown/Trotter family following a fatal fire near Gooberham in the early morning hours of Oct. 15.

More than \$66,675 was raised through GoFundMe after people learned of the fire, which took the life of the family’s 11-year-old daughter. At home during the fire were Ian Brown and Linsey Trotter and children Brooke and Chase. Linsey was transported to a Peterborough hospital, where she was placed in an induced coma after suffering severe smoke damage to her lungs and throat. She was eventually released from hospital in early November. Ian sustained multiple injuries to his back, along with smoke inhalation, while Chase also suffered side effects due to smoke inhalation.

New bistro

SIRCH Community Services announced its intentions to get into the restaurateur industry, with plans for the SIRCH Bistro and Marketplace well underway.

The 4,000 square-foot space is located where Shoppers Drug Mart once was at the corner of Maple Avenue and Victoria Street in Haliburton. The fully-accessible space features a commercial kitchen, dining area, marketplace for local artists and entrepreneurs to sell their products, and space for other programming. The local charity was able to move forward with the plans thanks to a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

It opened to the community in November.

Big plans

Using feedback gathered from stakeholders over the past year, architecture firm Basterfield and Associates returned to Haliburton on Oct. 20, albeit virtually, with a conceptual master plan for Head Lake Park, featuring an off-leash dog park, splash pad, additional pathways and several upgrades to existing features.

Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts called the plan “exciting” and said it will guide council in its efforts to redevelop the site. An expensive project, Roberts noted this was something that would be worked on over several years, and that upper-tier government grants would be required to bring the municipality’s vision to fruition.

Fleming residence

A long talked about student residence for Haliburton’s Fleming College campus could be making its home in Glebe Park.

In a Dysart council meeting, held virtually on Oct. 26, members of Fleming’s administration made their case, stating that establishing a residence in Haliburton is “very, very much important” and will help to expand programming at the campus. Mayor Andrea Roberts revealed discussions had been going on behind closed doors for much of 2019.

Though the exact location planned for the residence was not presented during the meeting, Roberts said the proposal was to move the lot lines where the existing large, main parking lot is toward the heritage buildings of the Haliburton Highlands Museum. The Nordic ski club building would also need to be removed and placed elsewhere in the park.

Adamson informed council that projects of this nature typically take around three years to complete, but given the residence wouldn’t be a “complicated build” it’s something the college could push forward with as soon as it’s approved. Council voted to support, in principle, a change of property line in Glebe Park to accommodate the student residence building. The plan was later approved on Nov. 10.



Hikers walk along a trail beside Barnum Creek, as part of the official opening ceremony of the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve on Thursday, Oct. 15 in Haliburton. The event included upwards of 25 people to mark the occasion, which was delayed due to measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19. The reserve, which features several kilometres of hiking trails on some is owed to the generosity of the Dobrzensky family who donated the 500 acre property for the reserve to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust in 2018./DARREN LUM Staff

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November

Pursuing passions of the heart

Dana McMullen and Rose Janssen brought a spirit of optimism to their new space in downtown Haliburton, opening EvergreenCSD Fine Art Photography Gallery and Design Studio.

The gallery is home to several “breathtaking” photography exhibits, taken by McMullen, who was a National Geographic photographer from 2014 to 2017. Individuals can also get communications services for things such as brand strategy, advertising campaigns, online learning modules and graphic design. Together, McMullen and Janssen have a dozen years of combined experience, winning awards for their photography and business work.

The new store is located at 158 Highland Street.

Incoming medical officer of health

When Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, medical officer of health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, announced she planned to retire in June of 2020, COVID-19 wasn't even a thing.

The onset of the pandemic here in Canada delayed Dr. Noseworthy's retirement. In November, the local health unit announced Dr. Noseworthy would be officially stepping away on Dec. 11 and that Dr. Natalie Bocking will take over the position in April of 2021. In the interim, Dr. Ian Gemmill will be filling the position.

Dr. Bocking has worked for the past four years as a public health physician at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit and Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority.

Ford announcement

Ontario Premier Doug Ford and members of his cabinet were in Minden on Nov. 4 to make a substantial funding announcement regarding broadband internet.

The announcement was for \$680 million in new funding for internet projects throughout Ontario, which comes in addition to \$315 million in existing funding through what the government calls 'Up To Speed: Ontario's Broadband and Cellular Action Plan'. Through various funding avenues, the province projects to spend nearly \$1 billion on improving rural internet services over the next six years.

Lest We Forget

On the eve of Remembrance Day, Ed Pickard, past-president of the Haliburton branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, said the annual memorial is about honouring people who “gave their lives for us.”

Pickard has served with the Legion for 42 years, 40 of them with the Haliburton branch. His wife, Billy Pickard, died two years ago at the age of 97. She served in the Canadian military as a postal clerk during the Second World War. She spent three years in Europe, ensuring soldiers on the frontlines remained connected to families at home. She later became a Haliburton Legion member.

More than one million Canadians and Newfoundlanders served in the military during the Second World War, with 45,000 of them making the ultimate sacrifice.

Local Lions recognized

Two members of the Haliburton and District Lions

Club were bestowed prestigious awards for their contributions to the club, the district and the wider community.

Mary Lawr and Betty Mills received the International Leadership Medal and International President's Medal, respectively, via courier in November. The awards recognize the hours these members spent working on projects on behalf of the service club, including the Walk for Service Dogs, Reverse Advent Calendar for the food bank, eyeglasses collection for those in need, and the Cash Calendars fundraiser.

A goodbye

Jenn Watt, the long-time editor of the *Echo*, *County Life*, the *Minden Times*, *Bancroft Times* and *Bancroft This Week*, announced she would be leaving her position with the papers effective Nov. 30.

After spending 13 years in Haliburton – two as a reporter and 11 as editor – Jenn going back to school with the goal of one day becoming a library technician. The entire *Echo* family continues to wish Jenn the very best of luck as she pursues her new endeavour. A familiar name to local readers, Chad Ingram, took on the role of editor with the *Times*, while Mike Baker was named editor of the *Echo* and *County Life*.

New housing development

Dysart et al council agreed on Nov. 24 to provide around 2.7 acres of town-owned land to a local organization that is actively working to bring more affordable housing options to the community.

The municipality's elected officials voted unanimously to dedicate the land, located on Wallings Road, to local non-profit Places for People. The charitable organization has more than a decade's worth of history in Haliburton County, working to create and manage “quality housing” for low and moderate-income renters across the community. Places for People owns and manages eight units across the county.

Area resident Jody Curry, a long-time volunteer with Places for People, expressed her excitement over this new partnership. She said this new development, once complete, would go a long way to alleviating the issues many people in our community face when it comes to securing affordable housing.

December

Online auction

Several high school students asked the public to participate in an online auction throughout December as they try to come up with creative ways to raise the spirits of this year's graduating students, who have had to endure the challenges of attending school with the constraints of the coronavirus.

Co-chairpersons of the committee Megan Klose and Daniella Meraw said the money raised would enable the purchase of special keepsakes for graduating peers. Among the things they're considering are a set of graduating class sweaters and a premium prom package for anyone who wants it.

Get in the spirit

The Haliburton and District Lions Club teamed up with the Haliburton Village Business Improvement Area on a new initiative inviting members of the public to dec-

orate the downtown Christmas tree, located outside the Village Barn on Highland Street.

Locals were encouraged to bring their favourite Christmas ornament and hang it on the massive tree. The event was put forward as way for people to tap into the Christmas spirit a little differently, with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic forcing popular festive celebrations such as the Santa Claus parade to be cancelled.

Anyone who placed a decoration on the tree is being asked to reclaim it by Jan. 11.

Move to yellow

For the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic here in Canada, Haliburton County, as part of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, was moved into the 'Yellow-Protect' level of Ontario's coronavirus response framework on Dec. 7.

The move came as a result of increased COVID-19 activity in the area, according to Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, the now former medical officer of health. At the time, there were 35 unresolved cases of COVID-19 within the local health region – 28 in Northumberland County and seven in the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Of course, the area has since transitioned into the 'Grey-Lockdown' stage, alongside every other community in Ontario, and will remain there until at least Jan. 23. As of press time, there are 72 active cases of COVID-19 in our region – 31 in Kawartha Lakes, 37 in Northumberland County and four here in Haliburton County.

Musical initiative

A new venture to bring loved but unused instruments into the hands of kids throughout the county is only a few weeks old, but already an inventory is growing and a few guitars have found new homes.

Haliburton resident Tom Oliver said the idea of building a Haliburton Music Exchange started “pretty much on a whim” when he saw a post from a fellow resident looking to gift her guitars to someone who needed them. He quickly built a website, listing inventory that is currently available. The idea, he says, is that the instruments find their way into the hands of someone who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to learn to play.

For more information, visit haliburtonmusicexchange.com.

Drive-thru parade

Santa Claus himself was front and centre at the Rotary Community Christmas Party 'Drive-Thru' edition on

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Dec. 5 at Curry Chevrolet in Haliburton. The community effort was made possible due to the efforts of the Rotary Club of Haliburton, the Haliburton and District Lions Club, the Haliburton BIA, Curry Chevrolet and an army of more than 20 volunteers. More than 600 people attended over the course of the evening.

Local pharmacy robbed

Haliburton Highlands OPP are continuing to investigate an armed robbery that occurred at Highland Pharmacy on Dec. 9.

At approximately 6 p.m. that evening, officers responded to the robbery at the business, located on Highland

Street. Information was received that two unknown masked suspects entered the business armed with a firearm. They demanded and received narcotics, then fled the scene. The suspects remain at large.

Poker Run cancelled

COVID-19 has delivered a fatal blow to what would have been the 32nd annual Poker Run, traditionally hosted by the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve every February.

With rising cases of the coronavirus across Ontario, Tegan Legge, general manager of the Haliburton Forest, confirmed the annual snowmobiling touring event fundraiser for the Haliburton Firefighters Association, scheduled for Feb. 6, would not be going ahead.

Warden repeat

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen will serve for a third term as Haliburton County warden after a tie vote by county councillors between Danielsen and contender, Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, on Dec. 15 was broken with a name being drawn from an envelope.

In late November, both Devolin and Danielsen expressed interest in becoming warden for the upcoming year, making speeches to their colleagues. The warden is the head of county council, which consists of the mayor and deputy mayor of each of the county's four lower-tier municipalities. Members of county council decide annually who'll fill the role for the upcoming year.

Danielsen has served as warden for the past two years, and will do so for a third term in 2021. Devolin previously held the role in 2017.

New sports store

A month after the community's only sports store, which housed the only skate sharpener in town, closed down, another one sprung up a short walk down Highland Street.

Delancey Sports opened to the public on Dec. 11. The new store specializes in providing high-level seasonal sports gear to residents at a knockdown price, said-Erika Mozes and Josh Karam, Canadian entrepreneurs who recently relocated to the Haliburton area after five years living among the hustle and bustle of New York City.

While the space offers a wide array of skiing, hockey and snowshoeing gear, it also offers skate sharpening on-site, meaning residents no longer have to head out of town to get their blades tuned up. The store, located at 160 Highland Street, is open seven days a week.

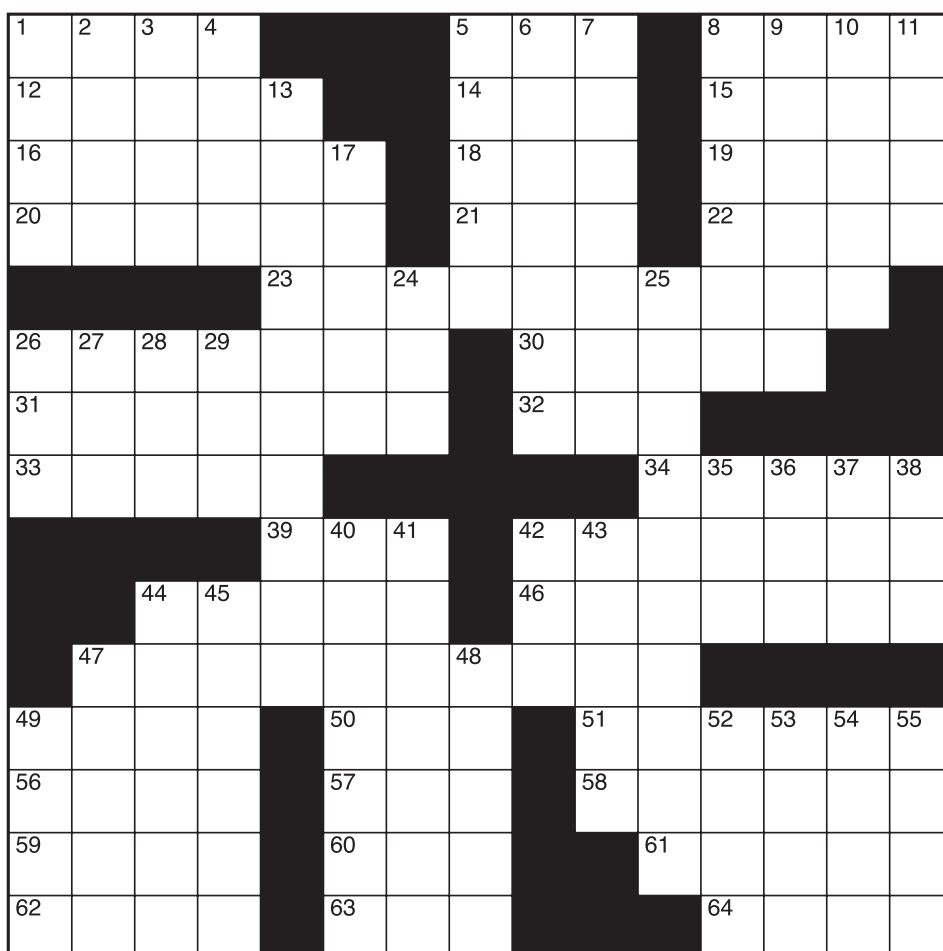
Crossword brought to you by

Ken Barry
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ken@kenbarry.com

"Out Standing In My Field"



RE/MAX
PROFESSIONALS
NORTH



CLUES ACROSS

1. Nuclear near reach weapon
5. Of she
8. Hyperbolic function
12. Rice dish
14. A team's best pitcher
15. Strong and healthy
16. Induces
18. Popular manga series
19. From a distance
20. Split
21. Consumed
22. Cushions
23. All over
26. One who provides food
30. St. ___ Girl, brand of beer
31. Walking slowly
32. Wood
33. Semitic gods
34. Bugle
39. 60-minute periods (abbr.)
42. Congressman
44. Plant of the heath family
46. Subdivision of an army
47. Having many different forms
49. Shellfish

50. Latin for hail
51. Between sixth and seventh
56. Maori war dance
57. Precious or semiprecious stone
58. Teeter totter
59. Deity
60. A major division of geological time
61. Fishing net
62. Small Caribbean bird
63. Field force unit
64. Japanese beverage

CLUES DOWN

1. Prevents oil spills
2. Monetary unit
3. The color of the sky
4. Dough used to make tortillas
5. Popular comic strip character
6. Distinct form of a plant
7. Replenishment
8. Has its own altar
9. Expedition to see animals
10. Group of related organisms
11. His and ___
13. Frenetically
17. Small integer
24. Unit of energy
25. Studies of culture
26. Taxi
27. Doctors' group
28. Don't know when yet
29. Former measure of length
35. Popular CBS series
36. Skin condition
37. Christian creator and ruler of the universe
38. They ___
40. Caused severe damage
41. Work done under harsh conditions for no pay
42. One point east of due south
43. Sea eagles
44. Drenched
45. State capital
47. Italian city
48. Sweetheart (archaic)
49. Brief talk
52. Popular disco group: Bee ___
53. First Chinese dynasty
54. Military vehicle
55. Chinese Moslem

Answers on page 26

HAPPY
New Year!
2021



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW 2005-120 OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- **DATE:** TUESDAY, JANUARY 26th, 2021
- **TIME:** 9:05 am
- **LOCATION:** TAKE NOTICE THAT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AS AN ELECTRONIC PUBLIC MEETING ONLY

Application:
Lands of Walker.

- Purpose and Effect: The proposed amendment will rezone the lands from Suburban Residential (RS) Zone to Highway Commercial (CH-XX) Exception Zone to permit low impact commercial uses on the subject property.
- Location: Part Lot 11, Concession 8, Parts 5 and 6, Plan 19R-9193, in the Geographic Township of Dysart, Municipality of Dysart et al.

Due to the Covid-19 Emergency, Council passed By-law 2020-35 that amends the Dysart Et Al's Procedural By-Law to permit electronic participation in meetings for Council, Local Boards and Committees. **Therefore, there will not be an in-person meeting; this meeting will be conducted in an electronic format only.**

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Municipal Clerk at mbishop@dysartetal.ca.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: about this application, including a copy of the draft by-law, is available by contacting Kris Orsan, Senior at korsan@dysartetal.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MATTER INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT APPEAL RIGHTS: Contact the Planning and Land Information Department during regular office hours, Monday to Friday.

Dated at the Township of Dysart, this 5th day of January, 2021.

Kris Orsan, CPT
Senior Planner, Planning and Land Information
Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Phone: 705-457-1740 ext. 626
E-mail: korsan@dysartetal.ca

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Eagle Lake Women's Scholarship for Geography
Haliburton Legion Year 1 Academic English Award
Jim and Doris Cooper Scholarship for Mathematics
Jim and Doris Cooper Scholarship for Mathematics
Loyal Orange Lodge #975 Scholarship
Neil & Judy McKenna Scholarship for Science
Year 1 Academic French Award
Year 1 Applied Mathematics Award
Year 1 Drama Award
Year 1 Extended French Award
Year 1 Hospitality and Tourism Award
Agnes Jamieson Memorial Scholarship for Art
Archie Stouffer Memorial Scholarship
Archie Stouffer Memorial Scholarship
Career Studies Award
Creighton Feir Canadian History Award
Creighton Feir Canadian History Award
Easton Family Award
Emmerson Lumber Limited Award
Haliburton Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Hospitality & Tourism Award
Haliburton Legion Year 2 Academic English Award
Jason Hollowell Award
Philip Payne Memorial Bursary
Wendy Schell Memorial Scholarship for Mathematics
Year 2 Academic French Award
Year 2 Drama Award
Year 2 Extended French Award
Year 2 Hospitality and Tourism Award
Assante Financial Management Award
Companionship Support Award
Gloria McCormack Memorial Award
Haliburton Legion Award for Transportation Technology
Haliburton Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Award
J. Douglas Hodgson Citizenship Award
Legal Studies Award
Mathematics Award for Year 3 Functions
Sherman Taylor Environmental Award
Sid Cooper Memorial Scholarship
Sid Cooper Memorial Scholarship
Year 3 Drama Award
Year 3 English Scholarship
Year 3 English Scholarship
Year 3 French Award
Year 3 Hospitality and Tourism Award
Year 3 Extended French
Year 3 yearbook Award
100.9 Canoe FM Radio Bursary
American History Award
Anna English Bursary
Aramark Nutrition Bursary
B.J. Fowler Memorial Bursary
Bamforth Bursary for Nursing
Barkhouse Bursary
Basil Hewitt Memorial Bursary
Bill and Sandra Valentine Memorial Bursary
Bill Medland Music Award
Bob Herlihey Memorial Bursary
Brenda Ann Chambers Award
Brenda Lee Ripley Memorial Bursary
Byron Bain Award
C. Jean Levis Calculus Award
C. Jean Levis Memorial Award for Mathematics
Community Living Trent Highlands Developmental Services Bursary
Canadian Federation of University Women Haliburton Highlands Bursary

Canadian History Award
Canadian International Law Award
Canadian Parents for French - Extended French Award
Canadian Parents for French - Core French Award
Catholic Women's League of St. Anthony of Padua Bursary
Century 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd. Bursary
Clarence McInerney Memorial Bursary
Clayton and Phyllis Hodgson Citizenship Bursary
Community Living Trent Highlands Award
Cooperative Education Program Award
Dale Robinson Award
Daniel and Pauline Otto Bursary
Daniel and Pauline Otto Bursary
Dawson Gray Accounting Scholarship
Dawson Hamilton Memorial Award
Donna Jennings Memorial Bursary
Earl and Jan Shipley Memorial Bursary
Edge Imaging Highlander Yearbook Scholarship
Environmental Leadership Award
Eric Nystedt Memorial Award (female)
Eric Nystedt Memorial Award (male)
Ethel L. Curry Award
Extended French Scholarship
F. D. Herlihey Memorial Scholarship
Ferguson Millar Arts Bursary

Florence Hunter Bursary
Fred Waller Bursary
Gary G. Brohman Award for Student Leadership
Gary G. Brohman Award for Student Leadership
George H. Thayer Memorial Bursary
Gloria Lemieux Award
Gloria Lemieux Award
Gloria Lemieux Award
Gloria Lemieux Award
Good Samaritan Award
Governor General's Academic Medal
Guitar Programme Award
Haliburton County Development Corporation Bursary
Haliburton County Folk Society Award
Haliburton County Food for Kids Scholarship

Recipient
Colleen Petric
Trinity Walker
Colleen Petric
Cooper Lloyd
Colleen Petric
Mya Jones
Colleen Petric
Colleen Petric
Jacob Miller
Sophie Longo
Owen Nicholls
Riley Bacon
Jocelyn Chumbley
Matthew Stata
Jackson Wilson
Courtney Semach
Ryenne Horsley
Courtney Semach
Brayden Grooms
Jocelyn Chumbley
Olivia Melle
Hudson MacArthur
Megan Klose
Brooke Stover
Matthew Statta
Hudson MacArthur
Grace Hudson
Emma Miller
Emma Thompson
Ryenne Horsley
Anthony Stead-Miller
Jaicob Wagg
Stefan Salaris
April Kovacs
Bence Suranyi
Jasmine Moghini
Megan Klose
Daniella Meraw
Daniella Meraw
Joshua Hogg
Dakota Sawyer
Justin Hagopian
Bence Suranyi
Samuel Hoenow
Emma James
Daniella Meraw
April Kovacs
Wyatt Hutchings
Bence Suranyi
Mackenzie Tidey
Destiny Wilson-Wells
Brady Baldry
Abigail Kauffeldt
Jessica Jones
Bluma Holtzman
Lane Brohm
William Craftchick
Michal Swiezawski
Morgan Burke
Benn MacNaull
Nicholas Graham
Charlotte Paton
Rebecca Archibald
Jocelyn Babineau
Siddhi Shah

Nick Toth
Nigel Smith
Rebecca Archibald
Isaac Little
Bianca Salaris
Benjamin Domerchie
Rebecca Archibald
Jessica Byers
Kendra Graham
Braeden Robinson
Bianca Salaris
Ruthie Parker
Brayden Rodgers
Bianca Salaris
Tevin Sullivan
Jonas Moghini
Krystin Hope
Erik Morrison
Ethan Gohm
Melissa Brinkos
Nigel Smith
Jessica Byers
Charlotte Paton
Abigail Kauffeldt
George Devolin

Austin Morris
Braeden Robinson
Hailey Brisco
Brayden Rodgers
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Abigail Kauffeldt
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Grace Kim
Trista Greer
James Alexander
Charlotte Paton
Lane Brohm
George Devolin
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Drama Club of H.H.S.S.
Chris Duchene
HHSS Hospitality & Tourism Program
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Mr. John Stouffer
Mr. John Stouffer
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Paul and Sharon Morissette
Michael Easton Enterprises Ltd
Emmerson Lumber Limited
Ladies' Auxiliary, Royal Canadian Legion
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129
Debra Lyons
H.H.S.S. Students' Council/Payne-Fawcett Families
Mrs. Louise Cooper
Ms. Jessica Lloyd
Drama Club of HHSS
Ms. Jessica Lloyd
HHSS Hospitality & Tourism Program
Mr. Gord Schakelaar, Assante Financial Management
Dan & Ginny Marsden
Jackie Mayhew
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129
Ladies' Auxiliary, Royal Canadian Legion
Anne and Andrew Hodgson
Mr. David A. P. Shapiera
Jennifer Paton
Canning Lake Property Owners' Ass'n
Mrs. Louise Cooper
Mrs. Louise Cooper
Drama Club of H.H.S.S.
Mrs. Ann Varty
Mrs. Ann Varty
Sam Little and Marina Thomazo
HHSS Hospitality & Tourism Program
Mrs. Rebeka Borgdorff
Trish Wootton
Canoe FM Radio
Paul Longo
H.H.S.S. Scholarship Fund
Aramark Canada Ltd.
Mrs. Bonnie Hoenow
Dr. Alexander Kennedy
Mary Anne Barkhouse
Kirk Hewitt and Family
Mrs. Sandra Valentine
Mrs. Donna Medland
The Family and Friends of Bob Herlihey
The Estate of Brenda Ann Chambers
Friends and family of Brenda Ripley
Chev Buick GMC Ltd
Teaching Staff of H.H.S.S.
The Levis Family
Community Living Haliburton County
Canadian Federation of University
Women Haliburton Highlands
Curry Chevrolet Buick GMC Ltd.
HHSS Social Science Department
Canadian Parents for French, Haliburton Chapter
Canadian Parents for French, Haliburton Chapter
C.W.L. of St. Anthony of Padua Church, Haliburton
Anne and Andrew Hodgson
H.H.S.S. Scholarship Fund
The Hodgson Family
Community Living Haliburton County
Chris Duchene
Dale Robinson
Hilda Pauline Otto
Hilda Pauline Otto
Dawson Gray Chartered Accountants
Matthew Duchene
Royce & Samantha Miller
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129
Edge Imaging
Paul and Sharon Morissette
Minden Detachment, O.P.P.
Family of the Late Ethel Curry
Cleve & Liane Roberts
The Late F.Harold Herlihey
Former CD Ferguson, Marge Ferguson & Jean Lang
Millar Awards
Ruth Phillips
Melissa Stephens and Walter Tose
Gary Brohman
Gary Brohman
H.H.S.S. Scholarship Fund
Estate of the late Gloria Lemieux
Estate of the late Gloria Lemieux
Estate of the late Gloria Lemieux
Estate of the late Gloria Lemieux
The Knights of Columbus
The Governor General of Canada
H.H.S.S. Bands
Haliburton County Development Corporation
Haliburton County Folk Society
Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

Lakefront Property Owners,

Are you aware of the proposed Shoreline Bylaw that the County of Haliburton is currently moving forward with? If not, please feel free to go to the Haliburton County Home Builders Associations website to view the latest draft. Here are a few points that should interest you if you own lakefront property:

- The County wants to have control over all lakefront property that is within 30 meters of the high-water mark.
- To complete a project within that 30-meter zone there is a possibility that the property owner may need to spend in excess of \$10 000.00 hiring professionals for an approval (*land surveyor, landscape architect, arborist, environmental engineer etc.*) There is still no guarantee that after spending this money that your project will receive approval.
- Estimates have the cost at \$750,000.00 per year for the implementation of this shoreline bylaw. This will trigger a tax increase.

If you have any questions, we at the HCHBA recommend that you write, email, or call your municipal elected officials with your concerns. The Draft Bylaw and Questions and Answers can be found on our website under 'Resources' at www.hchba.ca



Haliburton County
Home Builders Association
www.hchba.ca

#Building with the Environment in Mind

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Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub
Nurse Practitioner
Full time: 35 hours/week

youth wellness hubs
ONTARIO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

This position will be one of 5 key positions that together with multiple external service providers, come together to provide flexible, responsive and integrated services for youth aged 12-25 in Haliburton County. The hub focuses on ensuring supports and services are responsive to youth mental health and substance use needs while also integrating primary care, sexual health, employment, housing and other instrumental supports (including food security, clothing, laundry, and toiletry needs). The hub provides low barrier access and in addition to services above also focuses on creating and responding to program ideas and building positive connection between youth. The Nurse Practitioner will work with multiple service providers as a team player in an integrated modal and work with youth as partners in decision making in co-creating programs and services

The Nurse Practitioner functions in an expanded role demonstrating a high level of autonomy and is responsible for: conducting client assessments; diagnosing; ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests; prescribing pharmaceuticals and performing specific procedures within the legislated scope of practice. Working in collaboration with the inter-professional team, the NP will ensure a timely response to a client's changing health status and needs and provide direct patient care focusing on health promotion. Evening and some weekend work will be required as well as a valid driver's license and police record check.

Assets for this position

- Good initiative and interest in program development as it is a role that requires some growth in order to improve access and utilization of the resources.
- Experience working with LGBTQ2 populations and Indigenous populations
- Experience in sexual health and trans positive care
- Primary care experience
- French language
- Experience in mental health and substance use with a focus on harm reduction.
- Knowledge of Haliburton County community

The Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub is committed to employment equity, inclusion, and diversity, and welcomes applications from Indigenous persons, persons who are visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual or gender orientation.

Please send resume by Jan. 8th, 2020 to:
Mary Sisson
Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub Manager
Point in Time, Centre For Children, Youth and Parents
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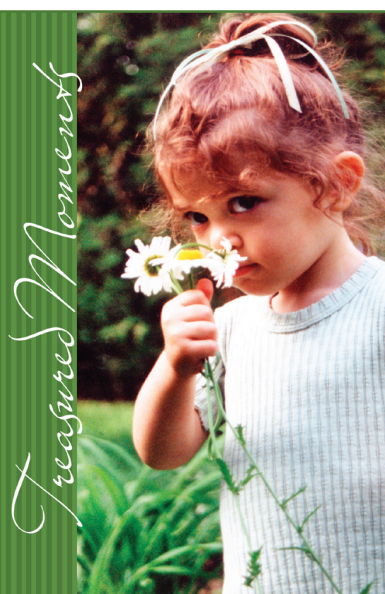
560 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You

to our neighbours, friends and family for the cards, flowers, food and charitable donations. Also to Rev. Morgan for the words of comfort at Norms service.

Heartfelt thanks to Dwaine and Lori for their invaluable help and caring.

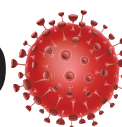
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For editorial please contact:
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Due to the pandemic's 28-day provincial lockdown both of our offices will be closed to the public until Monday, January 25th. Our newspapers will still be printing as usual during this time.



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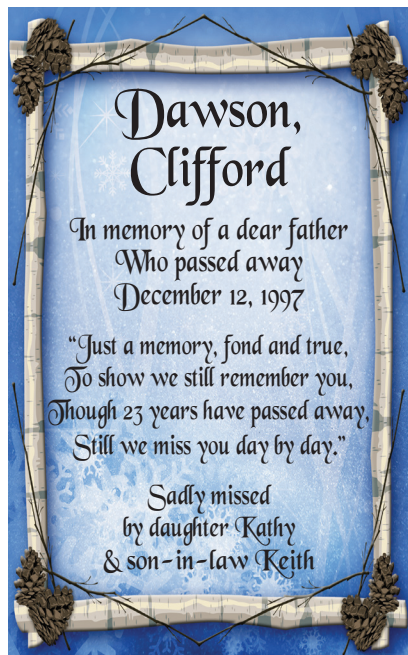


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Sympathy

640 IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts go wandering,
When daylight fades.
To the land of long ago.
And memory paints the scenes of old,
In the gold of the twilight glow.
We seem to see in the soft dim light,
The faces we loved the best,
And think of them when the sun's last ray,
Goes down in the far off west.



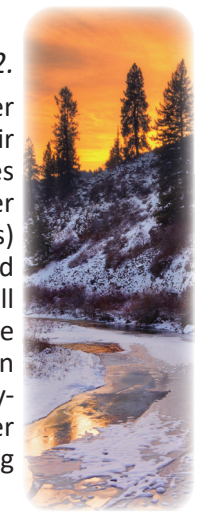
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650 OBITUARIES

650 OBITUARIES


It is with sadness to report the passing of
Dan Verbaan on December 21, 2020 at the age of 32.

Beloved son of Julia Moore and Art Verbaan, elder brother of Michael, partner of Shelbie and devoted father to their daughter, Aubrie. Loved grandson of Sonya Holliday-Rhodes and Dr. Anthony Holliday-Rhodes and additional grandfather Victor Disik. Special mention to Uncle Nick (Holliday-Rhodes) for soliciting prayers for Dan and family of Pastor Ralph and his flock. Special mention to Paul Reng (pre-deceased) for all his earlier support of Dan. Thanks to Aunt Isabella and Uncle Billy (Scotland) for the wonderful times they gave Dan when he stayed with them. Thank you to Uncle Chris (Holliday-Rhodes, predeceased) for entertaining Dan and his brother when they visited grandma when they were young, by playing games with them and teaching them soccer. Stay Safe!

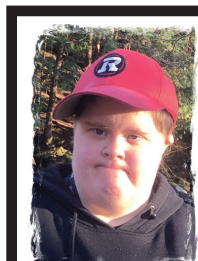


650 OBITUARIES

650 OBITUARIES



Community
FUNERAL HOME



Laura "Buddy" Plouffe
(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully surrounded by her family at Haliburton Hospital on Wednesday evening, December 30, 2020. Laura "Buddy" slipped into her Lord's arms in her 35th year. Cherished daughter of Brian and Dianne Plouffe. Loving sister of Leanne (Kyle) and Lindsay (Fadi). Lovingly remembered by her niece Hannah, her nephews Isaiah, Asher and her aunts, uncles, cousins, her many friends at Community Living and the West Guilford Baptist Church Family. Buddy was actively involved in the Special Olympics Bowling and Softball. Her parents Brian and Dianne wish to thank the Community Living Residence Staff for all their love and support that they have given Buddy over the last eleven years.

Private Visitation & Celebration Of Life

A Private Visitation and Celebration of Life took place at **WEST GUILFORD BAPTIST CHURCH** on Monday morning, January 4, 2021 at 11 o'clock. Unfortunately, we were not able to Livestream Buddy's Service. Buddy's Service will be videotaped to be shared on Wednesday January 6, 2021 on the West Guilford Baptist Church YouTube Channel. Please see the following link <https://youtube.com/channel/UCzJxC9HQBujJht4ZM-2VzQ> As an expression of sympathy, donations to Community Living Haliburton County or to West Guilford Baptist Church would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

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HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

THE VOICE OF THE HIGHLANDS

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HALIBURTON - ONTARIO

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1973

Established in 1882 as the
Minden Echo & Haliburton Record.

Mr. Gary Roberts Speaker At Awards Night

The teachers of the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School were the hosts at a banquet held on Saturday, October 27, for the 1973 Honour Students and Award winners. A former student, Mr. Gary Roberts, who is in charge of The Pesticide Division of the Ministry of the Environment in London, Ontario, was the guest speaker. He spoke of his work and of the involvement of young people in the control of pollution in our province. The Glee Club, under the direction of Mr. William Gliddon, provided entertainment during the Awards Programme.

Several new awards were announced by the chairman of the Scholarship Fund, Mr. R. Herlihey. These are: The Lindsay-Haliburton Scholarship for Research Papers in Geography - \$25.00; The Curtis Way Memorial Scholarship for a Technical Major Option - \$50.00; The W. R. Curry Memorial Scholarship for a General Course Student - \$200.00; The Hazel R. Newman Memorial Scholarship for Nursing - \$500.00.

Since Awards Night two new awards have been made available by teachers. They are: The Sandra Valentine Scholarship for Year 4 Music - \$25.00; The Year 2 General Course Scholarship for Mathematics - \$25.00.

The following are the awards and the donors:

1. Honour Pins and Bars to all Honour Students by the High School Staff
2. Mathematics and Science Awards - James Carroll and Harold Morgan by the Board
3. A. R. Williams Machinery Co. Award to Milard Shaw
4. Walkwood Limited Scholarship to Milard Shaw
5. The Emmerson Lumber Co. Scholarship to Gordon Holmes
6. Boice Motors Ltd. Scholarship to Nelson Johnston
7. J. Douglas Hodgson Scholarship to David Pentney and Lawrence Hirstwood
8. Haliburton Machine Company Scholarship to Will Upton
9. The Ralph Hussey Memorial Scholarship to Richard Stouffer by Mr. Gliddon
10. The Glee Club Scholarship to Dean Minto
11. Mrs. Norman Finney Scholarship to Leslie Freeman

12. William Metcalfe Scholarship to Harold Morgan
13. The William Gliddon Scholarship to Mark Sims
14. The Girl Athlete of the Year Trophy to Margaret Ackers from Mrs. Burt
15. Girls' Athletic Association Medal to Helen Tyler
16. The School Bus Owners Scholarship to Glen Gilmore and Wendy Schofield
17. The Wilberforce Veneer Co. Ltd. Award to Anne Cox
18. H.H.S.S. Staff Scholarship in Business and Commerce to Anne Cox
19. H.H.S.S. Students' Council Scholarship to Jane Daniel
20. The Philip Payne Memorial Bursary to Louise MacDuff by the Students' Council
21. The F. D. Herlihey Memorial Scholarship to Janice Hyde by Mr. F. H. Herlihey
22. The Mrs. Jean Herlihey Memorial Bursary to Royce Miller by the Herlihey family
23. The Highland Chapter Order of the Eastern Star Scholarship to Janice Hyde
24. The H.H.S.S. Staff Scholarship to George Thayer
25. The Haliburton Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion Scholarship to Donald Hunter and George Thayer
26. The Haliburton Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion Bursary to Wendy Schofield
27. The Haliburton Rotary Club Scholarship to Janice Hyde
28. The Ontario Scholarships and the Scholars of Ontario - Donald Hunter, Janice Hyde, George Thayer
29. The H.H.S.S. Staff Scholarship to Susan Woodcock
30. The Agnew and white Trophies to Steven Collier and Katherine Jowett
31. The Clayton W. Hodgson Memorial Scholarship to Jane Daniel, by Mrs. Hodgson
32. The Arts and Science Bursary to Barbara and Bonnie Dunford, by Miss Williams
33. The Haliburton County Board of Education Bursary to Robert Arbutnot, Susan Brohm and Keith Wilkinson
34. The Minden Rotary Club Bursary to Linda Johnston
35. The Sherman Taylor Scholarship to Shelley Jones, by the Canning Lake Cottage Owners Association

ers Association

36. The Track & Field Championship Trophies: Boys - Midget to Richard Stouffer, Junior to Roy Boughner and Wade MacInnes, Senior to Bruce Fletcher; Girls - Midget to Sandra Gough, Junior to Brenda Rippey, Senior to Wendy Gough
37. The Donald J. Finn Bursary to Wendy Schofield
38. The W. R. Curry Memorial Bursary to Carol Hewitt and Morris Elliott, by Curry Motors Ltd.
39. The Mrs. Hazel R. Newman Memorial Bursary to Helen Tyler, by Mr. Gordon Newman
40. The Lindsay-Haliburton Real Estate Scholarship to James Carroll
41. Oral Communications Festival Winners to Louise Hubbert and George Thayer
42. The Haliburton Highlands Scholarship Fund's highest award is membership in The Haliburton Highland Honour Society. Membership certificates were presented to James Carroll, Glen Gilmore, Debra Inglis, Penny Hartin, Janice Hyde, Joy Johnson, Harold Morgan, Louis O'Hara, Mark Sims.
43. School Letters were presented to Christopher Armstrong, Jane Daniel, Deborah Duncan, Don Hunter, Janice Hyde, Harold Morgan, Leslie Sisson, George Thayer, Helen Tyler, Mary Welch, Susan Woodcock.

Hakamu Manager To Speak At B.A.C.

Mr. Jerry Jeffs, manager of "The Hakamu", a group of young people who are coming here to Haliburton this weekend, will be the guest speaker when the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen hold their monthly Corporate Communion and Breakfast at St. George's Anglican Church this Sunday morning, November 18, at 8:00 a.m.

The Hakamu group will be at St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton for a special youth weekend.

Youths Attend Bombardier School

Two local youths attended the Ski-Doo Bombardier School in Barrie this past week, both of them being employed by P. H. Lymburner Ski-Doo Sales of Haliburton. They were both sponsored by the same dealer. Roy Burk, a newcomer to snowmobiling, received his first year Mechanic's Certificate while Peter Lymburner received honours while graduating second in his class.

Earl MacDuff Receives Award

Mr. Earl D. MacDuff of Crown Life Insurance Company has been awarded the National Quality



Award for 1973, which is presented annually in recognition of those Life Underwriters who have provided exceptional service to the public and secured for their clients the many advantages of life insurance. The award is made by the Life Underwriters Association of Canada, The Life Insurance Agency Management Association and the Agency Section of the Canadian Life Insurance Association.

"The Hakamu"

To Know Christ And To Make Him Known

Hakamu is a Hebrew word, used for 6000 years, which means an ability or skill. The silversmith had Hakamu with silver, the carpenter had Hakamu with wood and chisel. This group has Hakamu with guitar and voice, and they offer it up to their Lord.

The Hakamu is the outcome of a friendship formed between a group of teens who met at High school, Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora, or at Camp Koinonia, Parry Sound, Ontario.

Originally calling themselves the "Aurora Flops", they began to lead "sing things" at camp winter meetings as well as meeting for discussion groups on Sunday nights. Gradually, more members began to learn to play the guitar, and singing improved and, as other young people were attracted to the fellowship, more talent appeared and then "The Hakamu" was born. For a while they announced themselves as "a group of Christians and seekers" because some members weren't at all sure where they stood in regard to the Christian faith.

When the drug abuse problem surfaced in Aurora and district, and a few crisis situations occurred within the fellowship, the Hakamu held what was to be the first of many really searching "rap sessions". They took a long hard look at themselves, at their commitment to Christ (or lack of it) and their responsibilities to the troubled kids with whom they were rubbing shoulders every day at school and around town. The Christians in the group decided they wanted to "go all out" in introducing Jesus Christ as the answer to the insecurity, to the search for love, and to the need for power to overcome the lack of purpose besetting their generation, and so they challenged the undecided ones to make a decision about their own commitment to Christ and to decide just what the Hakamu's job was going to be.

Very soon, after some remarkable experiences, there was one hundred percent Christian commitment within the ranks of the Hakamu which resulted in dedicated practice sessions and eager searching Bible Studies. These studies began to attract large numbers of young people every Friday night and God sent in some very effective resource persons, in many cases persons previously quite unknown to the group, and this welcome leadership always appeared just in time to tackle an area of concern as

the need arose. Prayer began to take on a new dimension, and now these young people will pray "at the drop of a hat"; in fact, their enthusiasm for prayer can often leave the casual observer quite shaken up!

From these Bible studies and prayer sessions came a little group of followers who were always to be found faithfully sitting in their audiences, and these were eventually formed into the official "Hakamu Counsellor Team". These young people took part in a "Christian Life and Witness" course and now, as a part of the Hakamu, are always available to chat with anyone who wishes to do so after a concert.

Very soon the Hakamu's ministry began to take them further afield, to distant towns in Ontario and central New York State. But a concern for needs on their own door step brought the idea of opening a Coffee House in their own church, to a reality. This has been held once a month ever since without a break. Anyone who could play folk-style music was invited, in a town wide advertisement, to take part. The response was enthusiastic and so many have wanted to take part performers are now required to register in order to avoid over-programming.

From the very beginning, the Hakamu made no secret of the fact that they intended to lace these evenings with cheerful Christian songs and testimonies and toward the end of the evening a five minute "thumbnail sketch" of Jesus' encounters with individuals is included and this has all been taken in very good part, often sparking spirited discussions till long after the official closing time.

In the fall of '74 The Hakamu will be launching into a full time ministry. Expanding from their Church Service and Coffee House ministry to a more in depth contact with a community, through the media of workshops; both music and evangelistic concerts in local high schools, provincial and national parks, and indeed anywhere the Lord provides the opportunity to share their faith across Canada.

The youth of this area are invited to the following at St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton: Saturday, November 17, at 8:00 p.m. - Coffee House in the Parish Hall; Sunday, November 18, at 11:00 a.m. - Church Service; Sunday, November 18, at 1:30 p.m. - Workshop in the Parish Hall.

"Brother Of The Wind" Coming This Saturday

The outstanding outdoor wildlife movie "Brother of the Wind" comes to the Molou Theatre in Haliburton and Beaver Theatre in Minden this coming Saturday, November 17, with a matinee at 2:00 p.m. and showings at 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. on Saturday only.

High in the panoramic splendor of the Canadian Rockies, a lonely mountain man - Sam Monroe - watches in disgust as one of his mountain "friends", a mother timber wolf, is wantonly shot from a plane. Mortally wounded, Jenny manages to drag herself back to her den where four hungry pups eagerly await her return. Knowing the pups will surely die if left on their own, Monroe rescues them and takes them to his simple cabin.

Frightened and bewildered at first, they soon adapt themselves to their new surroundings and become Monroe's constant companions.

Each soon begins to show a distinctive personality and Sam Monroe names them Sunkleap (an Indian word meaning "leader"),

Shy Lady, Fire Eyes and Timber. The quartet follows the old man everywhere, encountering scores of other animals native to the Canadian Rockies. Their adventures with the other animals are the most comic wildlife scenes ever filmed.

Gradually the wolves begin to roam more freely through the mountains, unattached to Monroe. And with their freedom comes tragedy for Shy Lady, who is gunned down for "sport" from a snowmobile.

As another winter approaches, Monroe senses that the wolves are to say farewell to him.

In the middle of the hard winter the old man makes a lucky kill of a deer in deep snow and the smell of blood tantalizes a giant grizzly nearby. The old man sees the charging bear too late, trips, and falls defenseless in the snow at the mercy of the grizzly. But three old friends have heard his desperate cries and the wolves race to the scene and drive the huge animal away from the fallen and bloodied man.

Local Huskies Win Two Weekend Games

The Haliburton Travelways Huskies skated to an easy 8-2 exhibition hockey victory over the visiting Little Britain team on Saturday night at the Haliburton Arena.

Floyd Henry opened the scoring at the 9:07 mark of the first period and then Roger Bain and Bill Leary scored within 16 seconds to end the first period. Roger Bain scored his second goal at the :03 second mark and Little Britain rallied for two goals to end the second period scoring. The final frame saw Floyd Henry get his second goal, Ernie Bain scoring two markers in less than two minutes and Mike Good get his first goal of the season at the 17:32 mark to make it 8-2 for Haliburton.

With regular goaltender Louis O'Hara out with a leg injury, Miles Maughan was brought up from the Haliburton Midgets and he played an outstanding game, especially in the second period when Little Britain outshot the Huskies and threatened to tie up the game.

Jamie Carroll received injuries to his teeth and required several stitches when he was hit in the mouth with a stick late in the game. Stephen Lloyd also required stitches to his face when he was hit with a stick as the visitors carried their sticks high

throughout the game.

On Sunday night it was Miles Maughan in the net again as the Haliburton Travelways Huskies played their second exhibition game on the road in Lakefield. The Lakefield squad opened the scoring at 8:14 of the first period on a long shot by Doug Shannon and then Maughan kicked out 33 shots to shut out the Lumbermen for the remainder of the game. Roger Bain tied the game in the first period and in the middle stanza Floyd Henry, Larry Robinson and Larry LaPorte tallied for Haliburton. The Huskies completely outclassed the Lakefield Lumbermen in the final twenty minutes with Tim Curry scoring twice - the final score being Haliburton 6 and Lakefield 1.

The Travelway Huskies have a busy schedule this coming weekend with a game in Bancroft on Friday night, a return game with Bancroft here in Haliburton on Saturday night and then they travel to Little Britain on Sunday.

The regular schedule of the Central Ontario O.H.A. Junior 'D' Hockey League opens here on Saturday, November 24, when the Bobcaygeon Ti-Cats will be the opposition for the Huskies.

Mr. Art Lee of Haliburton was the lucky winner of the \$50.00 pool held on the Saturday night game.

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